# NDAY, FEBRUARY 5. 1 Israel, Oman discuss prospects for peace

CAIRO (Agencies) — Israel and Oman discussed the need to establish peace in the Middle East in the near future during talks in Jordan, a senior Omani official said here Sunday. Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yousef Ben Alawi Abdullah told reporters he met Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in Aqaba Saturday and their talks focused on "the importance of restoring peace as soon as possible." Mr. Ben Alawi said the meeting was peace as soon as possible. Mr. Beri Alawi said the meeting was part of the multilateral Middle East peace talks. An Israeli official said Mr. Peres and Mr. Ben Alawi discussed plans to open interest sections in Israel and Oman. The two also discussed the results of Thursday's summit in Cairo between the leaders of Israel, Jordan, Egypt and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) aimed at rescuing the Middle East peace process. Israeli Prime Minister Yirzhak Rabin paid an unprecedented visit to Oman in late



### Egypt, Syria, Gulf aim for closer ties

CAIRO (Agencies) — The foreign ministers of Egypt, Syria and six Gulf Arab states met bere Sunday aimed at reaching a six Civil Arab states met bere Sunday aimed at reaching a compromise on two draft accords concerning security and economic cooperation, Egyptian officials said. Along with Egypt and Syria the Six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) members — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman — form the Damascus declaration grouping of Arab states which joined the U.S.-led coalition against Iraq in 1991. The ministers were to ray to find a componentic between a Emirates. ministers were to try to find a compromise between an Egyptian plan focused on developing economic cooperation and a GCC plan putting security guarantees first, the officials said. The declaration crivisioned the creation of a military force that included Egyptian, Syrian and Gulf soldiers to defend the oil-rich region so it would not have to depend on Western help, as it did to free Kuwait from Iraqi occupation. But the pact has never been carried out. The Gulf states have, instead, signed defence parts with the United States and other Western nations and tried to improve their own

AMMAN MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1995, RAMADAN 6, 1415

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

# Israeli legislators visit Jordan Israeli contacts at all Israeli levels to identify priorities and launch joint action Israeli dialogue on all Israeli planta is not wasting any time in translating these visions into concrete reality through region at an international contacts. The Crown Prince cultined that the properties of the state of the properties of the propert

Some first them are installed parties, parties of services and installed parties, parties of six to Jordan on Sunday as part of ongoing efforts to develop bilateral relations after the two countries signed a parties of parties. develop bilateral relations of the two countries signed a peace treaty in October.

The lawmakers, who were to Amman by a Royal

Common by a Royal Comment flows to Amman by a Comment from Tel Aviv, were received by His an egation it has been a Majesty King Hussein at the Majesty Bing 1. Majesty Bing 1

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Lawzi, Lower House of Parliament Speaker Saad Hayel Al Srour, His Royal Highness Prince Talal Ben Mohammad, Royal Court several members of the cabinet and parliament, and senior officials.

The Israeli delegation was

headed by Knesset Speaker Shevach Weiss of the Labour Party. Jordan Television said the team had 30 members, but international agencies aid they were 28.

Betore the Mag at High-Before the King received

develop cooperation.

The Crown Prince called for Jordanian-Israeli relations based on "peaceful cohabitation" in three stages: getting to know one another, through meetings, exchange of information, personal contacts; the delimitation of the areas and the priorities for joint action and the formation of committees or other bodies charged with the responsibility of preparing the ground for the third stage, which will consist of joint activities in the areas

agreed upon." The successful transition from peace-making to peacebuilding requires states-manship and joint effort," the Crown Prince said. 'Our... ability to deliver durable peace and prosperity to future generations is still dependent on our willingness for compromise and sacri-

The Crown Prince cautioned against "the em-

accelerate that transition from peace-making to peace-

building."
The Crown Prince noted that Jordanian and Israeli negotiators were working on detailed agreements on cooperation in various sectors and emphasised that such accords were "essential for translating the spirit of the treaty of peace between our countries into a concrete and warm

reality between our peoples." The Crown Prince said Jordan and Israel should seek to promote security and cooperation at the bilateral level on the basis of the regional dimension. "In today's globalised world, no nation or group of nations can achieve prosperity and security in isolation from their neighbours," he pointed out.

Noting that the Jordan-Israeli peace treaty outlines mechanisms to develop a 'partnership for peace' through dialogue and cooperation, the Crown Prince

non-governmental, and between individuals."

"It should involve parliamentarians, political parties, religious bodies, cultural activities, educationalists, intellectuals, welfare associations, (and) economic and commercial enterprises," he said.

The Crown Prince cited regional economic summits, including the economic conference to be held in Amman in October. The proposed Middle East regional development bank and organisation for economic cooperation and development in the Middle East, the regional working group on the multilateral phase of the peace process, European Union-Mediterranean partnership, the Jordan Rift Valley development plan and free trade areas between Jordan and Israel as the key institutions that are being evolved to support the implementa-

tion of joint agreements.

(Continued on page 7)

# Shimon Shamir maybe named

TEL AVIV (AFP) - Shimon Shamir, former ambassador to Egypt, is expected to be appointed Israel's first ambassador to Jordan, a

newspaper reported Sunday. Tel Aviv University Professor Shamir, an Orientalist, has been picked out by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres as a "compromise candidate". the Yediot Aharonot news-paper said. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Mr. Peres have failed to agree on an envoy since the peace treaty was signed with Jordan on Oct. 26. Mr. Peres wanted a career diplomat in Amman while Mr. Rabin favoured a former Mossad intelligence

Mr. Shamir. who worked in Cairo from 1988-1990 before leaving the diplomatic service, told AFP he had been contacted by Mr. Peres. "If Rabin and Peres can agree, I would be prepared to

accept the post. But for the moment it is all speculation," A foreign ministry spokes-

man said no decision had

His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Hashemiyeh Palace. (Second from right) is Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Sunday Israeli Parliament Speaker Shevach Weiss receive Israeli parliament members at the (Petra photo)

# Iryani briefs King on Yemeni-Saudi meetings

Majesty King Hussein on Sunday received Yemeni Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Iryani, who briefed him on the progress of negotiations aimed at settling the Yemeni-Saudi border dis-

Dr. Iryani arrived in Amman from Syria with a message for the King from Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saieh. covering "ways to further cement Yemeni-Jordanian ties, Arab and regional issues as well as the latest international developments," the Jordan News

Agency, Petra, said. Dr. Irvani briefed King Hussein on "the progress of negotiations between the Yemeni and Saudi governments" aimed at resolving their border dispute, it said.

In January last year King Hussein brokered a reconciliation part between Sanaa and the leaders of former South Yemen.

It was not immediately clear whether Dr. Iryani, who left for home later Sunday, was seeking Jordan's mediation in the Yemeni-Saudi border dispute.

Jordan was Dr. Iryani's third stop after Egypt and Syria, which both mediated between Riyadh and Sanaa to

According to diplomats in Sanaa, Yemen is seeking international support for a mechanism to monitor its disputed border with Saudi Arabia and ease tension between the two countries.

They said Yemen had revived an idea to form a joint military committee of Yemeni and Saudi chiefs of staff and Egyptian and Syrian representatives, first aired by official Yemeni sources last month but received coolly by Saudi Arabia.

Dr. Iryani on Saturday briefed Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on the dispute, before flying to Damascus on a similar mission. In a departure statement

Dr. Iryani expressed his by Jordan to unify Arab ranks and coordinate the stands of Arab countries on issues of concern to the Arab Nation.

Dr. Iryani voiced Yemen's readiness to extend every possible support to such Jordanian initiatives.

"I delivered to His Majesty King Hussein a message from his brother President Ali Abdullah Saleh on the distinguished bilateral relations and developments in the re-

He added that the message also dealt with the Yemeni-Saudi negotiations taking place in the Saudi capital of

Riyadh. He said the Riyadh talks were a positive sign on the way to solving the border dispute, stressing Yemen's keenness to end differences with Saudi Arabia.

"Resolving the border dispute and returning the Yemeni-Saudi relations back to normal should be based on the Taif agreement signed between the two countries 60 years ago and on the basis of international law," Dr. Iryani told Petra, adding that the Riyadh talks would decide whether to hold a Yemenifuture

The Yemeni minister said Jordan and Yemen agreed to hold a ministerial meeting in Amman next month to prepare for the meetings of the Higher Jordanian-Yemeni Joint Committee later this

He said this was agreed at a meeting with Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Foreign Minister Khaled Al Karaki, who was at the airport later in the day to see off Dr. Iryani.

# Israel ignores PLO plea, keeps Palestinians under siege visit Jordan in March

Combined agency dispatches man Marwan Kanafani after than 50,000 Palestinians out

PRIME MINISTER Yitzhak belping peace... it's not going Rabin's cabinet on Sunday refused to meet Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) demands to allow tens of thousands of Palestinians back to jobs in Israel, announcing only a minor easing of the two-week closure

of the West Bank and Gaza. In its weekly session, the 18-member cabinet decided to allow Palestinian teachers and doctors into Israel and permit the import of Palesti-

nian agricultural goods. Deputy Palestinian Economics Minister Samir Huleileh said the renewed export of produce to Israel would bring the impoverished Palestinians a much-needed daily infusion of \$1 million.

But the Palestinians are demanding Israel completely lift the closure, imposed after a Jan. 22 bombing by extrem-ists that killed 20 Israeli sollers and a civilian.

"Obviously, we are dis-appointed," said PLO Chair-

the decision. "This is not to help combat violence."

Mr. Rabin and Mr. Arafat are scheduled to meet Thursday in the Gaza Strip to discuss any further easing of the closure and how to implement the next phase of the Israel-PLO accord.

Mr. Kanafani said he hoped the closure would be lifted at Thursday's meeting at the Erez crossing point between Israel and the autonomous Gaza Strip.

Israeli Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni told reporters Mr. Rabin would discuss the closure when he met Mr. Arafat.

Speaking after the weekly Israeli cabinet meeting, Ms. Aloni said the closure would continue "but there will be some exceptions for humanitarian reasons."

Mr. Arafat pressed Mr. Rabin to end the closure when they met in Cairo last Thursday during on Arab-Israeli summit.

of work and deepened poverty particularly in the Gaza Strip where unemployment runs at around 40 per cent.

The Jan. 22 bombing near Netanya led Mr. Rabin to set total separation from the Palestinians as a long-term goal and a study is underway on how best to achieve it. Sunday's decision left open

the possibility of a permanent separation between Israel and Palestinian-populated territories. While consistent with the

Israeli left wing's ultimate desire to withdraw from the West Bank, the separation policy runs counter to the autonomy accord which left the Palestinians heavily dependent on income from more than 100,000 labourers in Israel.

During the cabinet meeting, Environment Minister Yossi Sarid reportedly proposed making the closure permanent and paying the Palestinians a billion shekels

# Arab League head to Cairo conference decides on action to help displaced

CAIRO (Agencies) — Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabariti announced here relations with Arab Gulf Sunday that Arab League Secretary General Esmat Abdul Meguid will visit Jor-

dan early next month. Speaking to reporters following a meeting with Dr. Abdul Meguid, Mr. Kabariti said that Jordan, the current president of the Arab League Council, was seeking to activate the role of the Arab League and its various institutions as a means of inducing joint Arab action.

The coming Arab League meeting will discuss the creation of an Arab court of justice and the Arab will submit a proposed statute for the court which would settle disputes between Arab countries, Mr. Kabariti said.

The Arab League session, he added, will discuss the amendment of the Arab League Charter and the subject of the nuclear Non-

Proliferation Treaty. Jordan has repeatedly sought the creation of the Arab court of justice and the amendment of the charter whereby decisions will be taken on the strength of majority rather than unanimous voting as the case is at

Mr. Kabariti said he discussed all these issues with Dr. Abdul Meguid during the meeting, which was attended by Jordan's Ambassador to Egypt Nayef Al Qadi.

In an interview with Petra, Mr. Kabariti Sunday expressed confidence in achieving conciliation among Arab countries, underlining that no one party has monopoly over this conciliation.

Mr. Kabariti said Arab conciliation was contingent on various factors, with the most important among them being high-level coordination and confidence-building measures on the way to settling differences. "We in Jordan have called

and worked for developing such a mechanism and are following meetings with all the brethren with the hope that the current crisis facing the Arab World would be averted in the interest of the future Arab generations,'

The minister said Jordan's

countries are based on a legacy of "confidence, affection, respect and appreciation.' All this, he said, will help bring these relations to the aspired levels again. The minister said the unprecedented Jordanian-

Egyptian-Palestinian-Israeli meeting held in Cairo on Thursday was an attempt to resolve problems impeding progress in the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations. "The issue needs continuous follow-up and Arab support and it was apparent that Egypt justice and the Arab was serious in having this League's general secretariat stand," he said, expressing support for Egypt's efforts in this regard.

Describing Jordanian-Egyptian relations as brotherly, the minister said the Higher Jordanian-Egyptian joint committee will meet in the last week of March.

On Saturday, Mr. Kabariti attended a meeting with his Egyptian and Israeli counterparts. The meeting called for action to help Palestinians displaced by the 1967 Arab-Israeli conflict to return home, as a next step forward in the peace process.

The ministers from Jordan, Egypt and the Palestinian Authority said after meeting here that the return of the refugees would be "a step towards settling the consequences of the Israeli occupation and achieving a just and global peace."

A joint statement said Jordan and Egypt had "promised to supply the Palesti-nians with what data on the subject they might possess" and urged "other countries hosting displaced persons as well as specialised international organisations" to do likewise.

The three parties expressed the hope that a forthcoming four-party meeting with Israel "suggested the end of February" would lead to "concrete results permitting the effective return of displaced Palestinians."

Saturday's meeting grouped Mr. Kabariti with Egyptian Foreign Minister

(Continued on page 7)



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### man Yasser Arafat's spokes-The closure threw more (Continued on page 7) Jordan, Israel make progress on aviation and trade accords

By P.V. Vivekanand

Jordan Times Staff Reporter AMMAN - Jordan and Israel made progress in working out a trade agreement during a meeting last week and will resume negotiations next week on remaining differences in approach to goods to be given preferential treatment, official sources said

advanced towards cooperation in civil aviatin after Israel agreed to accept some of the Jordanian demands related to "air corridors and routes" through Israeli airspace, the chief executive of Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national carrier, said.

The sources said that Jordanian and Israeli trade negotiators met in Deir Alla on the Jordanian side of the Jardan Valley on Thursday to vicuss a draft trade accord. They made some progress and agreed to resume discussions on Feb. 13," said one

The source, who preferred

"both sides remain committed to the basic concepts" of the proposed trade agree-ment as called for in the Jordan-Israel peace treaty signed on Oct. 26, but had not yet bridged some gaps. particularly in the areas of preferential trade.

"There are some problems and difficulties, but they are only natural when two sides are negotiating for favour-The two sides meanwhile able terms," said the source without elaboration, but adding: "We are hopeful that an accord could be concluded 500n.

According to Jordanian officials, the Kingdom feels that Jordanian products should enjoy preferential treatment in Israel above a level that Israeli goods will have in Jordan, given the enormous economic disparity between the Israeli and Jordanian economies and taxation and customs tariff

But the Israeli side is holding out, arguing that meeting the Jordanian demands would mean an elimination of anonymity, stressed that any incentive for the King-

and the contract of the contr

dom to eventually sign a free trade accord with Israel. "It is pure business, and both sides are negotiating in-

tensely to protect own in-

terests," said another official.

"One should not read any-

thing more than that into the negotiations and the differences." Meanwhile, Nader Dahabi, chief executive officer of Royal Jordanian, was quoted as saying by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that RJ and Israel's El Al airlines had

reached an agreement on

joint packages to fly tourists

to Jordan and Israel. Quoted by Petra, Mr. Dahabi said a committee made up of representatives from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), the Royal Jordanian Air Force and RJ were studying the draft agreements, particularly in relation to altitudes that Israel is ready to offer flights to and from Jordan through

Israeli airspace. Mr. Dahabi confirmed that the main difference was over

(Continued on page 7)

**NEWS IN BRIEF** 

Israel expecting 90,000 immigrants

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israel expects to receive 90 in immigrants in 1995, compared with some 80,000 last in Israeli Integration Minister Yair Tzaban said Saturday.

undergoing repairs at the time of the blast, which was heard

over Valletta. It shattered windows in surrounding hou and started a fire which firefighters rapidly brought and

Iragi foreign minister to visit Turker

Sayed Al Sahhaf will visit Ankara Monday, the Turking

counterpart Murat Karayalcin. "It is important to rest

ties at ministerial level." Mr. Karayalcin told Anaroli

without elaborating. He was speaking in London at the end

of a meeting with his British, German, French and Infancounterparts. Turkey supports a lifting of the UN

sanctions imposed on Iraq after its August 1990 invasion

Kuwait. Ankara says the sanctions have cost the Turks

economy some \$20 billion. Turkey's trade with Iraq stoot

at around \$3 billion a year before the Gulf crisis.

ANKARA (AFP) — Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohar

Home

L<sup>i</sup>nited рет села tes of C ng eve rous to Mickey ion :: trade : \_the int

PRAYER TIMES . Dhuhr ..... Maghreb 18:36 **CHURCHES** 

22-20 Fall from Grace 23:59 Feature film "Children of

<sup>2</sup> Lesser God"

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifich, Tel. 810740 blies of God Church, Tel. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.

MOGADISHU (R) — Somali gunmen freed 16 Unthey were demanding \$420,000 which they alleged ited Nations aid workers late on Saturday after blockading was owed to Somalis by the them in a Mogadishu com-WFP. They sealed off the pound for three days, U.N. WFP offices and residences officials said on Sunday. early on Thursday. The siege on the World Mr. Bennett said the WFP

16 U.N. workers

Food Programme (WFP)

compound ended peaceful-

Bennett told reporters.

" U.N. spokesman George

The aid workers, all fore-

igners, had been prevented from joining 8,000 U.N.

peacekeepers and several

hundred civilian staff who

last week withdrew to the

fortified port and airport in

readiness for their final eva-

cuation from Somalia this

National Alliance of warlord

Mohammad Farah Aideed negotiated their release with

the gunmen. Somali sources

about 30, claimed that they

represented Somali port

security men who had work-

ed for WFP in 1992 at the

height of the Somali

emergency. They demanded

additional compensation for

the services of the security

men." Mr. Bennett said.

'The gunmen, numbering

said.

Members of the Somali

legal department was to look into the compensation

The gunmen said earlier

Some of those released flew to neighbouring Kenya. Others continued negotiations with the gunmen.

Mr. Bennett said the U.N. Operation in Somalia (UN-OSOM) was not involved in the negotiations to free the WFP workers, but had been kept informed of developments. Aid workers complain that UNOSOM has done little to save civilians although that was their original mis-

Mogadishu was fairly quiet on Sunday as looters carried off the last movable items from the downtown compound abandoned on Wednesday by U.N. troops and civilian staff as they pulled back.

Heavily-armed "technic-- armed vehicles of the rival Somali factions - were out in big numbers.

# U.S. helped supply arms to Iraq, ex-official says

NEW YORK (Agencies) -The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) secretly helped a Chilean arms dealer sell sophisticated bombs to Iraq in the mid-1980s, the New York Times reported in its Sunday editions.

The newspaper, quoting a former U.S. National Security Council official, said the weapons sales took place while President Ronald Reagan's administration was professing neutrality in the war then raging between Iraq and Iran.

The newspaper report was based on a court affidavit by Howard Teicher, who worked for the National Security Council from 1982 to 1987 as a main adviser on the Middle Mr. Teicher's affidavit,

filed last week, includes serious allegations on the question of whether U.S. intelligence officials played a direct and active role in Iraq's military buildup, the newspaper

It said the affidavit may rekindle the debate over

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) —

Michael and Suraya must be

among the most pampered Bengali tigers in the world:

they live like royalty with the

family of a wealthy business-

man in an exclusive district of

The couple, both three-

year-olds, are spoilt from

morning till night. They have

their teeth brushed, their hair

shampooed, and a lullaby

and soft words to coax them

into drinking their milk at

The five-member family of

Fuad Abul decided to add

two tigers to their household

Now they would not part

with Michael and Suraya for the world. "It would be like

asking someone to sell his

children. I could not let go of

my two tiger children," Mr.

Outside the sumptuous

family villa, the tigers also

have all mod cons in an iron-

fenced enclosure equipped

JORDAN TELEVISION

. By Way of the Stars

News in English

PROGRAMME TWO

Kuwait city.

bed-time.

two years ago.

Abul told AFP.

whether the Reagan and Bush administrations' efforts to provide military assistance to Iraq inadvertently created the military powerhouse that invaded Kuwait in 1990 and started the Gulf war.

The allegations of CIA involvement were placed in the court record in a Miami conspiracy case against two executives of Teledyne in Los Angeles.

Teledyne has pleaded guilty to conspiracy charges growing out of allegations that it violated federal export laws by shipping 130 tonnes of the metal zirconium to Chile, where it was used to help assemble the bombs.

The wealfhy Chilean businessman charged in the case, Carlos Cardoen, has acknowledged selling arms to Iraq, but maintains that he cannot be charged in an American courtroom because the United States secretly approved sales.

Mr. Teicher said he believed the CIA "authorised, approved and assisted" Mr.

Bengali tigers pampered in Kuwait

with air conditioning, a hea-

ter and a luxury bathroom

with all kinds of shampoos.

wife of Mr. Abul, besides

caring for her three children,

behaves just like a mother

Michael every morning and

brush their teeth, after clean-

ing up the room," she said.

pooed but my lovely daugh-

ter Suraya likes it very

imported from England and

home-cooked meat.

The tigers only drink milk

Mr. Abul said Suraya was

given to him as a gift from a

Bahraini friend. At the time,

she was only a few days old.

tiger in an Italian circus," he said proudly. "But I bought Michael from the Isle of

Wight zoo in England a few

months after I got his mate."

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757 Terrasancta Church Tel: 622366 Church of the Aumunciation Tel. 623541.

Mr. Abul refused to dis-

"Her mother is the star

'Michael hates being sham-

"I bathe Suraya and

with the tigers too.

much.

Umm Mohammad, the



A Palestinian couple argues with an Israeli soldier as they try to enter Jerusalem from the Bethlehem roadblock on Sunday. The Israeli government extended the closure of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip which was imposed two weeks ago after 21 people died in a suicide bombing (AFP

# Crunch week ahead for Mideast peace

NICOSIA (AFP) — A crunch week for Middle East peace lies ahead to test claims that a landmark Arab-Israeli summit in Cairo marked a turning point in the battered

peace process.
The leaders of Israel, Jordan, Egypt and that Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) organised a series of high-level meetings this week to boost flagging peace talks when they met in Cairo on

As a result Egypt confidently declared the Arab-Israeli peace process was 'back on Track.'

Israel and the PLO are to return to the negotiating table in Cairo on Monday in an attempt to organise longdelayed elections to a Palestinian autonomy council on the West Bank. Israel froze the talks after

21 people were killed in a double suicide bombing by Palestinian militants near Netanya on January 22.
PLO leader Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister

Yitzhak Rabin will then meet at the Erez crossing between Israel and the Gaza Strip on Thursday to hammer out problems dogging the extension of Palestinian autonomy.

"Raising a tiger at your place is very difficult and

dangerous at the same time.

But if you treat them like

your own children... they will

never harm you or anybody

every day with our two-

month-old cat... and it has

aged 13, acknowledges,

however, that "as they grow

up, it's becoming very diffi-

cult for us to play with

know come to visit my place

just to see the tigers... we

usually give them posters we printed for them on their last

The posters show Surava

Mr. Abul and his wife have

with a ribbon and pink flow-

a menagerie of animals, in-

cluding a deer and a peacock.

not to mention several cats

and dogs. They say they feel

birthday," he added.

ers in her mane.

"People whom I don't

Ahmad, the youngest son,

never been harmed."

"Suraya and Michael play

else," he said.

them.

And foreign ministers from the four summit participants will meet in Washington for follow-up talks next Sunday

with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Chrisopher.

Meanwhile, U.S. Com-merce Secretary Ron Brown travels to Egypt this week for an unprecedented meeting with Arabs and Israelis on trade and investment in a bid to give economic support to

the peace process.
"Basically it's the economic counterpart of the Cairo meeting," said Ian Kalicki, a Commerce Department counsel, on the Feb. 8 meeting between the U.S., Jordan, Egypt and the Palestinians in the Red Sea resort of

Mr. Rabin hailed the Cairo summit as a "turning point" for peace which would continue to "act in the direction of peace in the Middle East." He singled out for praise a

condemnation from the four leaders of militant violence. Israeli public confidence in peace has been rocked by a series of suicide bombings which has left 56 people dead m 10 months.

"It's the first time that Israel and the chairman of the autonomous authority Yasser Arafat together condemn the terror supported by the Syrians," Mr. Rabin told state radio.

However, the Palestinians warned that the problem of violence would not simply

disappear. Mr. Arafat's spokesman Marwan Kanafa-ni said it was "impossible" for the Palestinians to give guarantees to rein in terror-

The guarantees we can look for is to stop causes leading to violence, the causes being not only with the Palestinian self-rule authority," Mr. Kanafani said.

Mr. Rabin, Mr. Arafat, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and King Hussein failed to make headway on other key issues plaguing Israeli-PLO negotiations.

No firm date was set for a redeployment of Israeli troops on the West Bank away from Palestinian builtup areas, already delayed by eight months.

Nor did Israel make any promises to halt the expansion of settlements in the West Bank or Jerusalem which has angered Palestinians and led to warnings of a new Palestinian uprising.
The PLO said the issue of

settlements would top the agenda of the Rabin-Arafat meeting. "It is the main obstacle and must remain on the agenda until the problem is settled." said Finance Minister Mohammad Zuhdi-Nashashihi.

And there was no commitment from Mr. Rabin to lift 1993.

the two-week closure of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, although the Israeli cabinet was to debate Sunday on whether to allow some Palestinians into Israel for "humanitarian reasons."

The closure has thrown some 50,000 Palestinians out. of work in areas already hard hit by unemployment and economic problems.

Mr. Mubarak left Israeli and PLO leaders in no doubt of the importance of resolving such issues in their upcoming talks, and the price the region could pay for fai-

"Terrorism will be the only substitute if the peace (process) fails," he warned. "The collapse of the Israeli-PLO talks will provoke a number of problems politically, economically, socially and for security," he said Friday.

The Cairo summit was also hamstrung in efforts to unblock the most troublesome track of the peace process that between Israel and Svria

Damascus ignored an open invitation to the gathering and was scathing about its prospects, dismissing it as just another attempt "to escape the crisis" since the "doomed" Palestinian autonomy accords were signed in

# Four drown in Cairo drain CAIRO (AFP) - Four people drowned in the draining system of a Cairo suburb Saturday, police said A municipal worker went down a drainage hole in the Shubra

e-Kheima district to carry out repairs and was swept away by effluent. Alarmed when the man failed to reappear; is colleague went down the hole to look for him but was a swept away. His shouting alerted four passers-by, who went to save him but were also overcome by the efflicit Rescuers managed to save two of them and recovered four bodies. The survivors said that once they entered the drain they were "suffocated by such a disgusting stench; that they "fainted" and fell into the efficient.

### Pakistan manpower to Gulf declines

ABU DHABI (AP) - Pakistan, a leading supplied of

manpower to Gulf states, has witnessed a 55 per cent drop in its annual labour exports to the region over the part decade, a Pakistani official has said. The number Pakistani's leaving their homeland to work in sides belonging to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) as dropped from 200,000 annually in the early 1980s to about 90,000 presently, said Mohammad Saeed Mehdi. Mr. Mehdi, who heads a government agency that deals with manpower exports, made his comments during a visit w Abu Dhabi. Commenting on the decline, Mr. Mehdi said most of the early 1980s development projects in the Gui have been completed. Moreover, with most Gulf countries experiencing budget deficits, some have cut back develop mental expenditure, resulting in a fall in expatriate labor demand. There are about eight million expatriates in the GCC member states of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahraia. Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman, approximate ly one million of whom are Pakistanis, according Pakistani consulates. The Pakistani government has an newed efforts to enlarge the number of Pakistanis working overseas. Higher manpower exports help in solving dometic unemployment problems and, through remittances from abroad, add to the foreign exchange earnings. Mr. Meb plans to take his mission to drum up a bigger market in Pakistani labourers to Brunei, Malaysia, South Kores Cyprus and Lebanon. He already has been to Saudi Arabi

### Iran builds own tanks, personnel carriers

tanks and amphibious armoured personnel carriers, is official Iranian news agency IRNA reported Saturday planning to assemble M-1A1 Abrams tanks under licent from the U.S. firm General Dynamics.

# TEHRAN (AFP) — Iran has started building its own battle

IRNA said the tank was an improved version of Russel made tanks seized by Iranian forces during the 1980-198 war with Iraq. It did not specify which model the Iran tank was based on. The amphibious armoured personnel carrier, called Barraq, could carry personnel or equipment at sea or on land. IRNA said. Barraq is the name of the winged horse on which the Prophet Mohammad traveled. from Mecca to Jerusalem and then ascended to heaves The Revolutionary Guards Corps Saturday took delivered the first batch of tanks and armoured personnel carres, IRNA said. Corps Commander Mohsen Rezaei said affair components used in the troop carrier matched international standards. Israel is the only other country in the Middle East to be building its own tank, the Merkava. Egypt's

# JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

for animals.

Anglican Charch Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543. Armenian Catholic Church Tel Armenian Orthodox Church Tcl. 775261. .. Association Bein Faiteurs St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751. Amman International Church Tel. ...... Ramadan in the World Ammaa 652526. ....... Magazine Zero One Evangelical Lotheran Church Tel: 824328. .. Street Hawk 20:45
The Miraculous Cosmos of the

eaking Evangelical Con-German-opeaning Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195
The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932
Church of Nazarene Tel.675691.
The Evangelical Local Church in Tel. 811295

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Depart-It will be cold with skies cloudy

to partly cloudy. Ramfall is exwesterly moderate to active. In

Min./Max. tcmp.	54
Amman	
Aqaba	9/1
Deserts	3/1
Jordan Valley	8/14

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 11. Agaba 18 Humidity USEFUL

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS

**NIGHT DUTY** 

AMMAN:
Dr. Yousef Rashed 89630
Dr. Jamil Tarif 7947 [1
Dr. Fayez Dahbas 759155
Dr. Abbas Al Hakim \$85440
Firas pharmacy 661913
Ferdows pharmacy 775330
Al Asema pharmacy 637055
Naircukh pharmacy 62367.
Al Salam pharmacy 636734
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 63766
Nairoujh pharmacy
Najib pharmacy 84763.
IRBID:
Dr. Ali Al Omart 272033
Alques pharmacy (—)
ZARQA:
Dr. Randa Shahin 995710

Khanler pharmacy . ...... 985417 **EMERGENCIES** 

Umm Mohammad, a rich Kuwaiti bousewife,

brushing the teeth of Michael, a three-year-old

relaxed with animals, espe-

cially the tigers.
"They really love us, but not for our money. After all,

they don't know how much

we have in the bank," Mr.

Food Centrel Centre Crei Defence Department Civil Defence Immediate	661111
Rescue Civil Defence Emergency Rescue Poisce 192, 621111 Fire Brigade	.637777 617101
Blood Bank Highway Police Traffic Police Public Security Department	775121 843ans
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(digration) assistance) Overseas Calls	010 <u>23</u> 0
Abdah Telephone Repairs Jordan Telephone Radio Jerdan	561101 773111 774111
Water Authority Jordan Electricity Authority Electric Power	815615
Соправу	636381

HOSPITALS

He criticised the govern-

"We only have one medic-

ment for not doing enough

(AFP photo)

AMMAN: Hussein Medical Centre 813613 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn	:32
64479	1/6
Akileh Maternity, J. Amn.	
64244	12
Jahal Amman Maternity 642	362
Mainas. J. Amman (代)	I AD
Palcauna, Sameisani Kaasa	779
anancisada Hospital 660:	121
University Morman Page	245
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Managa, Al-Muharenen 77710	172
APPRICAL Ashrafich 275111.	714
Army, Marka . Solicit	:25
UNICOT AND HOSPITAL APPLIA	(CA)
CHAIR COSPICAL 6741	55
GAKUA:	
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (00)9833	23
Zarqa National Hospital	
- DO - CODE	e0
IPP Sina Hospital Indinesa	77
Unitariam managem (1620); [Udiod00	790
DOTE.	

Princess Basma Hospital Greek Catholic Hospital Ibn Al Nafees Hospital ...

(02)272275

AQABA: Protecta Haya Hospital ........(03)3(4))) FOR THE TRAVELLER **QUEEN ALIA** 

country.

Benghali tiger in her home in Kuwait City

a centre to take care of

animals. It's not well-

equipped so most of the medicine Michael and Suraya

need we get from outside the

AIRPORT This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Oucen Alia In-ternational Airport Tel. (08)53200. 5, where it should always be veri-APRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ)

INTERNATIONAL

Flights (Terminal 1) Damascus (RJ)
Dhahran (RJ) . New Delhi (RJ) 09:55 ..... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  Other Flights (Terminal 2)

.. Kiev (61)

DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

... Beirst (RJ) 10:45 ... Amsterdam, Chicago (RJ) 12:20 ..... Frankfurt, London (RJ) Other Flights (Terminal 2)

...... Istanbul (TK) iin, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF) Sanaa (IY)
...... Kiev (eU)
...... Dubai (EK)
...... Amsterdam (KL)
...... London (BA) 15:30

HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amman 8:00 every Monday Arr. Damaseus 5:00 p.m. every Monday nascus 7:30 a.m. every Sunday 5:00 p.m. every Smith

MARKET PRICES

y a jordan Times Suff Reporter

AMMAN A dispute be-Munister Parliament Fawaz Zoubi stemfrom accusations and accusations and accusations traded in a straightful session in the past around over supply materials Manual Residence of the past o Israeli Integration Minister I all 12aban said Santuray, Mr. Market Super Super Tzaban said 6,500 immigrants came to Israel in Jaman and over super 5,780 of them from the former Soviet Union. The selection Sunday immigration figure represented an 11 per cent rise on the per super s Weistry of Supply of notably Ukraine. More than 625,000 immigrants have get a gift of 50 tonnes of arrived in Israel from the former Soviet Union since that it received 150 ton-1989.

Libya probes tanker blast in Maita said the ministry and failed to district the ministry and said the ministry and failed to district the ministry and said the minister had told the Libyan oil tanker in the port of Valletta, a spokesmanth in the previous sestitude and said the minister had told the minister in the previous sestitude and said the ministry and said the mini the national oil company said here Saturday. Fight the issue was shippard workers were also injured, two of them criticals in the explosion on board the tanker Oum el Faroug, what hotels and resultant maltese officials said was apparently caused by an area and individual. Maltese officials said was apparently caused by an acrumulation of gas in the vessel's hold. "A commission is not and individual to Malta later to investigate. The causes of the explosion are still not known," said the Libyan official, without specifying when the visit would take place. The tanker was undergoing repairs at the time of the blast which was the said to hote!s and individual and i

Brown e

<sub>By a</sub> Jordan Times Staff Reporter MMAN - U.S. Com-

more Secretary of State model Brown will be in lorder for a few hours on Wednesday, meeting with news agency Anatolia reported, quoting his Turking 据 Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Vinister Sharif Zeid Ben Sizter and several other embers of the Cabinet as private sector. The meetings will be held

the Royal Palace in where Mr. Brown a delegation accomsaying him are scheduled namve Wednesday mornation Taba, Egypt. They leave for Kuwait in the lordan is expected to

min its commitment to z market economy and dame trade by removing sective barriers in a gra-Imanner that would ena that the Kingdom's adjudustries are not hurt nugh unfair competition.

The Kingdom will also a American official enmagement for imports in Jordan and to secure parential treatment for denian products in the

# 3 die in road

ן Rana Husseini

to the Jordan Times MAN — Three people ded in a road accimolving a car and a early Saturday Mon the newly built bighway. Public tenty Department

PSD reports said. landing to the report. aneat, which occur-. id the Khour bridge. a attributed by traffic ansed the car driver ise control.

le report said that the occurred when the of the car, Ibrahim ks control of his vehiwerved to the left side the road and struck an Toming truck driven by hahim S. was accompa-

another passenger, by police as Qas-A. who was also killed ne accident three victims were

timed to the Mafraq govwere declared dead on Meanwhile, one person

WHAT'S GO

Film entitled "Jules Et Jim Centre at 7:00 p.m.

PLAY Ray im Arabic) entitled "Yo goval Cultural Centre at 9

EXHIBIT Exhibition of works by Qasir Bank Complex Gallery. Book exhibition at the Roy thowing another exhibition

dibition of the works of Besha at Darat Al Funun. Al ion entitled "Phase II-Doors itab artists.

Phase 11-12-0...

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Phase 11-12-0...

Phase 11-12-0... Educational works depicting french Cultural Centre.

Ethibition of works by Ha

# IN BRIE Minister, MP settle dispute in House

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

ıg 90,000 immig<sub>lanı</sub> israel expects to tween

Adel Qudah and Adel Qudah and member Fawaz Zoubi stemming from accusations and ming from accusations and recriminations traded in a recrimination of the past month over supply materials was defused during a Lower House session Sunday.

Mr. Zoubi had accused the Ministry of Supply of amouncing that it had recrived a gift of 50 tonnes of rice from Egypt while in fact, and it recriminations traded in a recriminations traded in a recrimination traded in a

Libyan commission of incomments and said the ministry sold the gift to hotels and restaurants and failed to dismitute any part of it to the ministry said here saturday discomments and failed to dismitute any part of it to the minister had told the minister had tol time of the ofest, which ac-ac windows in surrounding firefighters rapidly brough



Adel Qudah

The minister had said that the ministry's law does not allow it to distribute the gift to needy families. The minister also said that

Mr. Zoubi was persisting in his stand in a bid to throw suspicion on the ministry's activities and offend its dignity. Therefore, the minister said that the government and the House should refer the whole matter to the public prosecutor and that the government should sue the depu-



Fawaz Zoubi

In reaction, deputy Zoubi told a local daily Sunday, before the House session, that he would demand from the House to withdraw confidence in the minister of supp-

At the outset of Sunday's session, Parliament Speaker Saad Hayel Srour addressed the government and the deputies, stressing that Mr. Zoubi or any other deputy have the right to raise any question which they believe

eneral public and to shed light on any violation that might be committed by the executive authority, in accordance with the Constitution and Parliament regulations.

At that, the minister said that his decision to refer the matter to the public prosecutor was aimed at enabling Parliament to have access to all details and all information in this case, noting that the public prosecutor can decide whether any ministry official had abused his authority in handling public funds.

Mr. Qudah stressed that by

making the demand, he had not meant to cause any offence to Mr. Zoubi or any other deputy. He said he apologises if the move was interpreted as an offence because the executive authority was keen on maintaining close cooperation with and not to cause offence to the House or its members. On hearing this reply, Mr.

Zoubi said he would consider

# would be in the interest of the-Brown expected in Aqaba for brief talks

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

nister to visit Turk

ag: Foreign Minister Mole.

SI: Ankara Monday, the [

eponed, quoting his i-

Mr. Auravalcin told Ag

as speaking in London at.

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Turkey's trade with Iran

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MARKET PRICE

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AMMAN - U.S. Commerce Secretary of State Ronald Brown will be in Jordan for a few hours on Wednesday, meeting with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and several other members of the Cabinet as well as representatives of the private sector. The meetings will be held

at the Royal Palace in Aqaba, where Mr. Brown and a delegation accompanying him are scheduled to arrive Wednesday morning from Taba, Egypt. They will leave for Kuwait in the afternoon.

Jordan is expected to reaffirm its commitment to free market economy and facilitate trade by removing protective barriers in a gradual manner that would ensure that the Kingdom's local industries are not hurt through unfair competition.

The Kingdom will also seek American official encouragement for imports from Jordan and to secure preferential treatment for Jordanian products in the

By Rana Husseini

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Three people

were killed in a road acci-

dent involving a car and a

pickup early Saturday

morning on the newly built

Mafraq highway, Public

According to the report,

the accident, which occur-red near the Khour bridge, was attributed by traffic

officials to slippery roads

that caused the car driver

The report said that the

accident occurred when the

driver of the car, Ibrahim

S., lost control of his vehi-

cle, swerved to the left side

of the road and struck an

oncoming truck driven by

Ibrahim S. was accompa-

nied by another passenger,

identified by police as Qas-

sem A., who was also killed

Security Department

(PSD) reports said.

to lose control.

Hussein M.

in the accident.

The U.S. is the largest single exporter to Jordan, accounting for about \$300 million of the Kingdom's imports during 1994 and less than \$10 million in ex-

Also expected to be discussed during the Aqaba meeting are preparations for a conference to be held in Amman in October as a follow-up to the Middle East and North Africa economic summit held in Casablanca, Morocco, late

In Taba, Mr. Brown and the delegation, which will include chief executives of at least 10 American companies, will attend a meeting, beginning on Tuesday, of officials and businessmen from Jordan, Egypt, Israel and the Palestinian territor-

The Taba meeting is billed as an effort to enhance regional cooperation as well as explore means to increase American trade with the region's countries and a reflection of "the commit-ment of the government and the private sector to the peace process."

The Jordanian delegation

was killed and 17 were in-

jured when a public bus

slipped off the road and

3 die in road accident

to the meeting is expected to be headed by Minister of Trade and Industry Ali Abul Ragheb and will also include representatives from the Chamber of Commerce and Chamber of In-

"Our goals of economic cooperation and trade development are integral to that process," Mr. Brown was quoted as saying in a press release issued by the Department of Commerce this week. "To build lasting peace and stability, we must ensure the region has a strong economic founda-

Mr. Brown visited Jordan in late 1993 and said the Department of Commerce was seriously engaged in efforts to encourage the American private sector to do business with and in the Kingdom in trade as well as joint ventures.

Another theme during that visit was a call for the lifting of the secondary and tertiary aspects of the Arab economic boycott of Israel so that American firms could do business with Arab countries which have been boycotting them because of their trade links

Removing trade barriers

and methods of implementing bilateral and multilateral trade agreements are expected to be the key theme for the Taba meeting, which will also offer an opportunity for the private sectors of the U.S. and the region's countries to discuss prospects for While in the area, Mr.

Brown will also chair the third meeting of the U.S.-Israel Science and Technology Commission, which "encourages joint projects between high-technology industries in the U.S. and Israel and promotes commercially oriented scientific exhanges between the universities and research institutes of the two countries."

Mr. Brown and the delegation accompanying him will visit Israel, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip. Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) "to discuss ways to increase economic viability and create jobs in the U.S. and throughout the region, according to the Commerce Department.

# Minister pledges to address

rolled over on the Amman-Qadissieh road, PSD reports said. The accident was also attributed to slippery roads caused by the rain. The deceased was identi-

fied by police as Yakoub Mousa (30). This is the third reported accident involving public and private buses since the

beginning of this year. In the meantime, a 33-year-old man from Zarqa was killed Saturday when a stone crusher fell on his head, PSD reports said.

The owner of the stone crusher told police that the victim, Najhi Mohammad, was doing maintenance work on his stone crusher when "the chain holding the stone crusher suddenly broke and fell on Najhi's

The victim was rushed to the Zarqa government hospital but died on the way. All three victims were rushed to the Mafraq government hospital, where This is the second workthey were declared dead on Meanwhile, one person

related death in two days and the fifth in the past

# WHAT'S GOING ON

### FILM

\* Film entitled "Jules Et Jim" at the French Cultural Centre at 7:00 p.m.

☆ Play (in Arabic) entitled "You Are Not Yourself" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 9:00 p.m.

### EXHIBITIONS

Exhibition of works by Qasim Al Samir at the Housing Bank Complex Gallery.

☆ Book exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre. Also showing another exhibition of Arabic Calligraphy. \* Exhibition of the works of Lebanese artist Amin Al Basha at Darat Al Funum. Also showing another exhibition entitled "Phase II-Doors and Windows" by Jordanian artist Ghada Dahdaleh and works by contemporary

🛕 Educational works depicting the life of "Voltaire" at the French Cultural Centre.

☆ Exhibition of works by Hala Mahayni at the Petra International Hotel in Agaba.

# poverty, unemployment

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Social Development Salwa Al Masri Sunday said her ministry will direct special attention to addressing the problems of poverty and unemployment in order to minimise their effects on the soci-

Speaking at a press conference, Mrs. Masri said the ministry has plans to increase the monthly payments made by the National Aid Fund (NAF) from JD 50 to JD 60. and to encourage physical and vocational training projects, in addition to supporting self-help projects and enhancing the social security

Mrs. Masri said a special committee has recently been formed to discuss the welfare societies' law with a view to making it consistent with the social changes and enabling it to cope with the social prob-

The ministry will speed up work on enforcing the childhood law and initiating dia-logue between the public and the decision-makers with the aim of identifying children's needs, particularly those of the disadvantaged children, groups.

Mrs. Masri stressed the importance of training and rehabilitation of handicapped children and called for absorbing them in productive Mrs. Masri said it was time

for assessing NAF work 10 years after its establishment. She disclosed the ministry's plans to reconsider NAF activities and plans with a view to enabling it to work effectively. She noted that her ministry will draw up a geographic map of Jordan, including the necessary data on each region, and the existing governmental and nongovernmental bodies concerned with community development.

On the World Summit for Social Development, which will be held in Copenhagen, Mrs. Masri said a national committee has finalised a working paper, including Jordan's views on the subject. The paper covers three major topics, namely poverty reduction, increasing the number of labour-intensive projects and social integration of the disadvantaged

# Prince Ra'd chairs municipality talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Chief article 8 of the law on the Chamberlain Prince Ra'd handicapped which calls on Ben Zeid Sunday chaired a meeting at the Greater Amby Minister of Public Works and Housing Abdul Razzaq Ensour and Amman Mayor Mamdouh Al Abbadi. Prince Ra'd discussed with Dr. Ensour and Dr. Abbadi the requirements for constructions for the handicapped including buildings, entrances, lanes and health facilities. Prince Ra'd stres-

sed the need for applying

the parties concerned to facilitate the movement of man Municipality, attended the handicapped in cities through the development of special designs for buildings. Dr. Abbadi said the Greater Amman Municipality had embarked on several measures designed to facilitate the movement of the handicapped on most road junctions which have been recently expanded, in addition to the newly built roads.

## Jordan Times Tel 667171

### Queen holds iftar banquet

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor held an iftar banquet Sunday at Raghadan Palace for members of the Royal Family and the wives of government offi-

Earlier Sunday, the Queen had participated in a treeplanting ceremony at the Applied Science University to mark the Arbour Day. The Applied Science University. established in 1991, offers more than 30 specialities, some of which are the first to be taught in the Arab World. Dr. Abdullah Al Abbadi,

president of the university, presented the Queen with a silver oak tree model produced at the university. The Queen planted an oak and a pine tree before touring the university Queen Noor visited two

pharmacology laboratories. the new athletic centre which, upon completion in June, will be the largest in the Middle East, and the Department of Engineering and Architecture.

The Queen spoke with the students and faculty members, who demonstrated various scientific experiments and exhibited their architectural plans and models. She was particularly impressed with the university's computer simulations of architectural designs and inquired about future plans to link up with the Internet, a worldwide network of com-

Queen Noor, accompanied by Princess Alia Ai Faisal, was received by the minister of higher education, the chairman and the members of the Board of Trustees and the deans of the university.

# Al al Bayt University officially inaugurated

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

MAFRAQ - The Mafraqbased Al al Bayt University will be formally opened Monday at a ceremony held under Royal patron-

A total of 240 local and 450 non-Arab Muslim students are currently enrolled at the Al al Bayt University for the first academic year 1994-95, studying at the arts, science, economy and administrative science, Arabic and Sharia and Islamic Law faculties, according to a university official on the eve of the event.

He said that in addition to these faculties, the university runs institutes for studies in Islamic architecture, astronomy and space, together with two centres, one for languages and one for computer training.

His Majesty King Hussein announced plans for the establishment of Al al Bayt University in August 1992 when he said that the new institution would be a gift from Jordan to the Arab and Islamic Nation.

King Hussein entrusted His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan with chairing the new university's constituent assembly which includes elite scholars from Arab and Islamic coun-

University President Mohammad Adnan Al Bakhit told the Jordan Times in a recent interview that although the university will aim at drawing together Muslim students from all Islamic countries, the primary language of research and instruction at Al al Bayt University will be Arabic.

According to a law for establishing the new higher educational institution, Al al Bayt University aims at serving Islamic communities and the human society in general by all possible means.

The law says that Al al Bayt is an independent international, Islamic and scientific establishment governed by a Royal Commission chaired by Prince Has-

To mark the inauguration, the Ministry of Post and Communications announced Sunday that it will issue a new set of commemorative stamps. The postal stamps will be of 80, 125 and 200 fils denominations and can be bought from all post offices as of Monday.

# RJ's Board of Directors endorses ambitious plan for fleet modernisation

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Board of Directors of Royal Jordanian (RJ) the national airline, has endorsed an ambitious plan for the modernisation of the airline's fleet. RJ President and Chief Executive Officer Nader Dahabi announced Sunday.

RI board's plan entails the equisition of modern, longrange planes which are needed for the modernisation project, he said. Currently RJ owns 17 planes of which 14 are for passengers and three for freight, said Mr. Dahabi, adding that 11 planes are on lease to RJ with purchase option at the end of the issue: five TriStar planes, which will be fully owned by RJ in two years' time, four 310 Airbus and two 320 Airbus, which will become the property of the national airline by the year

He said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the rest of the planes are leased to RI on operational basis, which means that the planes will return to the possession of the manufacturing company upon the termination of the Mr. Dahabi said that RJ is

currently holding negotiations with the manufacturers, aimed at reaching an agreement on capital lease, to get a replacement for the TriStar

RJ is also about to finalise a feasibility study on the prospect of operating smallsize planes, seating between 30 to 60 passengers, to be used for domestic flights between Amman and Aqaba and between Queen Alia International Airport and Marka Airport, a move which will also allow the airline to operate twice daily flights between Amman and Aqaba instead of one at present, said Mr. Dahabi who expressed hope that this programme could be introduced early in the coming summer.

Mr. Dahabi noted that small size planes could also be used for flights to Damas-cus, Beirut, Sharm Al Sheikh in Sinai, Cairo and Al Ghardaqah and on flights where smaller numbers of passengers, up to 60, are booked for Furthermore, RJ has now

decided to purchase one 320 Airbus plane to be used on short and medium-range flights and the airline was expected to receive the new plane in February of next year when RJ will put two Boeing 727 planes out of service, continued Mr. Dahabi. Referring to new routes for

RJ Mr. Dahabi said that the

mended that the national airlines capital be increased, that the Gateway Hotel and the free shops at the airport

national airline will reopen

routes that have been closed

due to political and economic

considerations in the past. In

this respect, RJ will reopen

routes to Belgrade and

Bucharest and will also open

a new route to Osaka, in

Japan, in May, and the Am-

RJ will soon increase its

Amman-Singapore flights to

three from two at present, Amman-New York flights to

six instead of five and Am-

man Canada flights to three

Concerning the privatisa-tion of RI, he said that the

British consultancy firm Peat

had submitted its report to a

committee charged with con-

ducting the privatisation pro-

cess, calling for the trans-formation of the airline into a

public shareholding company

owned by the government for

two years, after which local

and non-Jordanian investors

will be allowed to acquire

The British consultancy

firm's report also recom-

instead of two per week.

man-Alexandria route.

be sold to ensure liquidity for the airline and that the airline be operated on commercial basis to increase profits, Mr.

# Jordan, Israel today start direct postal service

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan and Israel launch direct postal services between them today, three months after they signed a peace treaty that normalised relations and opened the door for close cooperation.

Jordan and Israel opened direct phone services on Aug. 8, two weeks after the two countries signed the Washington Declaration, which accelerated their peace negotiations and culminated in the October peace treaty.

The postal services will include letters as well as parcels, but will be limited to air mail through Cyprus in the initial phase, said Sadi Al Akour, a senior official of the Post and Communications Ministry. "There will be no over-

land mail in the first phase as agreed upon by the two sides," Mr. Akour told the Jordan Times. "All mail will be flown to Cyprus from where it will be sent to Israel and Jordan." Jordan and Israel have

not reached a civil aviation agreement yet (see story on page one). Once such an accord is reached, mail will be flown directly to each

Mithgal Abu Heza, director of postal services, said postal charges for airmail to Israel would be 240

and 120 fils per every extra 10 grammes or part thereof. Different tariffs will apply for parcels.

fils for the first 10 grammes

For the moment, Jordanian mail to the occupied West Bank and the Palestinian autonomous territory of Gaza and Jericho will also: be routed through As such, the Jordan-

Israel service is expected to be dominated by mail between Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and Jordan rather than Israel and the Kingdom. Mr. Abu Heza said he

expected mail to take at least two days to reach destinations in Israel and Jor-Mr. Abu Heza noted that

direct postal services between Jordan and the Palestinian territories could become operative after the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) in Gaza and Jericho establishes its own postal authorities.

Agreements signed between Jordan and the PNA last month call for direct postal services between the Kingdom and the Palestinian territories, but the accord will be effective on a date to be agreed upon by the two parties - meaning when the PNA sets up the relevant facilities on its side to receive and dispatch

Jordan and the Palestinian territories would use the King Hussein Bridge across the River Jordan for the postal services.

As and when the Kingdom and Israel reach an agreement on overland transfer of mail, the Jordan Valley Bridge (old Sheikh Hussein Bridge) in the north is expected to be used. That access constitutes a crossing between the territories of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the State of Israel.

The King Hussein Bridge is seen as a crossing be-tween Jordanian and

Palestinian territories. The "mumtaz" (express courier) service, which Jordan operates to dozens of countries, will not be applicable to Israel at this point, Mr. Akour said.

"We need to have special agreements between the two sides for the mumtaz mail." he said.

Under the Jordan-PNA accord on cooperation in postal and communications services signed on Jan. 26, Jordan will be the focal point for receiving from and dispatching mail to the occupied territories.

The PNA will use the Queen Alia International Airport and the Royal Jordanian airline for mail originating in and destined to the autonomous territor-

# Markets 'abound' with produce; exports continue to Gulf, Lebanon

the apparent increase in the consumption of vegetables and fruits during the holy month of Ramadan, Jordan is continuing its export prog-rammes and is selling between 600 and 1,000 tonnes of agricultural products daily to the traditional markets in the Gulf states and Lebanon, according to Agriculture Marketing Organisation (AMO) Director General Salem Lawzi.

Dr. Lawzi said that the Jordanian markets are continually supplied with vegetables and fruit and their prices Sunday were lower than those in the past week in view of the abundant produc-

Referring to the poultry meat, Dr. Lawzi said that the slaughter house in Duleil. near Zarqa, is supplying sufficient quantities to the domestic markets, adding that there was no shortage of poultry meat in Jordan and that its price is fixed by the Ministry of Supply.

At the same time AMO

AMMAN (Petra) — Despite has decided to import oranges from Lebanon to meet the extra demand on this commodity in the local markets. He said that according to an agreement reached with the Lebanese authorities, Jordan will import 1,000 tonnes of Lebanese oranges during the current season.

> Dr. Lawzi said that the Ministry of Supply and the Ministry of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Greater Amman Municipality, decided to run three open air sougs (markets) in Amman suburbs in order to facilitate buying and supplying more amounts of vegetables and fruits to the market during Ramadan.

The three markets, which will open on Monday, are located on Jabal Nuzha by Independence Street, Muqablein, opposite Crown Hotel and Abu Nuseir, opposite the Recreational and Entertainment Park, according to Dr. Lawzi.

At these markets, he said, farmers sell their products directly to the consumers for at least 20 per cent lower than the regular market prices. Dr. Lawzi explained that

the farmers at the open air markets will not pay a 10 per cent tax on their sales to the Amman Municipality and 30 per cent to the wholesale merchants, and so they can sell at lower prices.

He said both the consumers and the farmers are bound to benefit from the open air markets.

Dr. Lawzi pointed out that a committee made up of members from the municipality and the ministries of agriculture and supply has been set up to monitor the buying and selling operations in these three markets, noting that AMO is studying the prospect of opening other open air markets in other suburbs of the capital.

These teams will be conducting regular inspection

visits and will not allow any person other than farmers to offer their products for sale at these sougs, said Dr. Lawzi. adding that the farmers will not be charged any fees on

Prince of Wales

goes fox-hunting

GRITTLETON, England ... (AFP) — Prince Charles -

went fox-hunting near his home in southwest England, despite protests from animal

rights campaigners in a week

that saw the movement claim

its first "martyr". Around

100 hunters, including Prince

and Princess Michael of

Kent, took part in the hunt.

The prince aroused anger in

October when he took his sons the Prince William and

Henry on a fox-hunt, promp-

ting parliamentarians to ask

the government to make it

illegal to take children to a

tester, Jill Phipps, was killed Wednesday at Coventry Air-

port in the English Midlands when she fell under the

wheels of a truck transporting

calves for export to veal pro-

ducers in France and Hol-

Police probe

bugging claim in

Diana court case

LONDON (R) — British

police are probing claims that someone bugged a defence

lawyer's phone call in a case

brought by Princess Diana against a former gymnasium owner. Princess Diana is ex-

pected to appear in court

hunt. An animal rights pro-

# Strong vote for Jospin raises Socialist chances

PARIS (AFP) - A strong vote for former Education Minister Lionel Jospin as the Socialist candidate in French presidential elections increased his party's chances Sunday as an opinion poll showed the electorate is highly volatile with more than two-thirds of voters unde-

Mr. Jospin's clear victory over party First Secretary Henri Emmanuelli with nearly 66 per cent of the vote in a Socialist primary restored unity to the party and raised moraie after a trail of humiliation that began with its rout in March, 1993 legislative elections at the hands of the conservatives.

The clear result "has swept away the quarrels and the cliques" that had riven the party, said 57-yer-old Jospin, calling on it "to rally for an offensive" against conservative favourite Edouard Balla-

dur, the prime minister. For his part, Mr. Emmanuelli, who at one time said he would resign as party chief if he lost the vote, declared Sunday he would stay on to campaign for Mr. Jospin, known as the "Mr. Clean" of

but it is nothing compared with what is at stake... the future of our country and the future of our people," said Mr. Emmanuelli, 49, adding that he would respect the

Mr. Jospin, a conviction politician from a teaching background, is from the left of the party but came in with the support of the centre-

On Sunday he vowed to force Mr. Balladur, who is trying to stay aloof from the rough-and-tumble of the hustings, into campaigning and scoffed at his technocrat origins.
The Socialist candidate, a

talented debater, pledged to "debunk" the prime minister's "immobile" record as prime minister. "Mr. Balladur wants us to contemplate the opinion polls and then to be appointed to the Elysee (presidential palace), butnot even God could do this," said Mr. Jospin to an ovation.

Official results proclaimed at a special party congress Sunday said Mr. Jospin got 52,250 votes, or 65.85 per cent of the total, compared with Emmanuelli's 27,095

higher than expected turnout - 73.15 per cent of the party's 112,681 paid-up members cast ballots.

Mr. Jospin's victory came as an opinion poll showed that an unprecedented 69 per cent of the French are "don't knows" three months ahead of the first round of the presidentials on April 23 to re-place Socialist President François Mitterrand and that the situation could flip for the miles-ahead favourite, 65-

year-old Balladur.

The poll, by the IFOP Institute for the Journal Du Dimanche newspaper, also said that 21 per cent of voters said they disliked all of the 11 candidates and would probably abstain.

But Mr. Jospin, with his curt, rigid manner and puritanical reputation, may not be the man to reverse the trend. Recent opinion polls have said that Mr. Jospin would not make it into the second round of the presidential of May 7 — but that was before the Socialist primary.

The party's two best candidates have withdrawn. Former European Commission chief Jacques Delors pulled

out in December even though opinion polls said he would defeat Mr. Balladur.

And popular former Culture Minister Jack Lang with-drew last month after failing to win support from party apparatchiks.

But Mr. Jospin's candidacy should cut the number of "don't-knows" and the decision of the centre-right former Prime Minister Raymond Barre whether or not stand - to be announced later this month - should further reduce the numbers of the undecided.

A joker in the pack for Mr. Jospin is the attitude of failed tycoon Bernard Tapie's

Radical Party. Mr. Tapie, who is ineligible afer being declared bankrupt, is detested by Mr. Jos-pin, who recently said that mortality should be brought back into politics and that "a minium virtue" and of "honesty" was required.

Mr. Tapie, who at first said Radical would put up a candidate if Mr. Jospin became the Socialist candidate, Saturday offered his support "provided he is open with me and that he openly shakes me by the hand."

The Spartan-204 Spacecraft is lifted over Discovery's cargo bay by the shuttle's robot arm operated by Russian Astronaut Vladimir Thoy and U.S. astronaut Janice Voss. The

shottle, with international crew of six, will fly around the Russian space station Mir during

# Shuttle's 2nd jet leak stopped; close approach to Mir is still threatened

would be disappointed if he

couldn't close in all the way,

and that much information

navigation and shuttle-

give them what we can."

June docking by Atlantis will

proceed no matter what hap-pens on this mission. At least

seven Atlanta-Mir dockings

are planned through 1997.

Discovery's flight was the

The first steering thruster

to leak, located at the rear of

Discovery, began spewing nitrogen tetroxide shortly af-ter Discovery reached orbit

Friday. The amount of leak-

age has decreased from 2

pounds (1 kg) to a half-pound (225 gr) per hour, but Russian space officials are worried even that much could

The second leak popped up

Saturday afternoon in a

thruster at the front of dis-

covery; this jet was losing 6

contaminate the station.

handling.

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AP) — Spouting fuel like a geyser, a leaking thruster on Discovery is threatening to ruin the shuttle's rendezyous with the Russian space

Discovery later sprang another thruster leak, this one even bigger, but the crew got that seepage to stop by late Saturday night. Russian officials were con-

cerned the leaking fuel might damage their orbiting Mir station if Discovery came too close during Monday's ren-dezvous. NASA flight controllers scrambled to provide as much information about the leak as possible to their Russian counterparts.
Mission Operations Direc-

tor Randy Stone said NASA will do whatever the Russians want. In the worst case, the Discovery and its crew of six will have to fly around Mir from a distance of about 400 feet (125 metres), he said. The original plan called for the shuttle approaching as close as 35 feet (10 metres), he said. The original plan called for the shuttle approaching as close as 35 feet (10 metres) as practice for the first shuttle-Mir dock-

ing in June. Shuttle Commander James

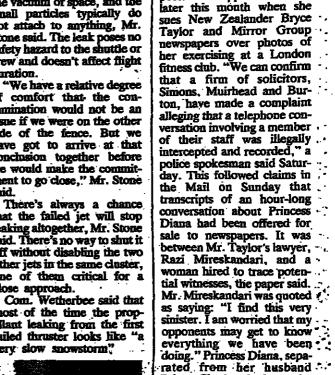
Wetherbee said that he pounds (2.7 kg) of propellant per hour when the crew shut it down for several hours. The jet had stopped leaking when they turned it back on. would be lost involving In all, the shuttle has 38 of the type of thrusters that

were having trouble. "There are a lot of un-Liquid propellant turns into ice when it encounters knowns, uncertainties with a rendezvous like this," Commander Wetherbee said. If the vacuum of space, and the small particles typically do not attach to anything, Mr. Discovery is limited to 400 feet (125 metres), "then we'll Stone said. The leak poses no National Aeronautics and safety hazard to the shuttle or Space Administration crew and doesn't affect flight (NASA) officials insist the

"We have a relative degree of comfort that the contamination would not be an issue if we were on the other side of the fence. But we have got to arrive at that conclusion together before we would make the commitment to go close," Mr. Stone

There's always a chance that the failed jet will stop leaking altogether, Mr. Stone said. There's no way to shut it off without disabling the two other jets in the same cluster, one of them critical for a close approach.

most of the time the propellant leaking from the first failed thruster looks like "a very slow snowstorm?



### Vicar teaches clergy how to combat satanişm

Prince Charles, is due to be

the first member of the Brit-

ish royal family to appear in ".

court for almost a century.

LONDON (R) — A "ghostbuster" vicar who works as an official church exorcist is to run a special course to teach fellow clergymen how to combat satanism.
course is designed for young who are now facing this new challenge known to older churchmen for many years now. More and more people are now dabbling in the occult with sad and frightening results," Tim Willis said. Willis, who is launching the conference later this month, handles about 30 inquiries a year in the northern English diocese of York from worried callers with reports about ghosts and evil spirits. He was once called to a fishing trawler after the crew reported seeing ghosts and refused to put to sea.

### **Conductor guits** after 'mafioso' phone threats

NAPLES, Italy (AP) -- One of Italy's best-known classical musicians tried to shrug off bad reviews of the opera he was conducting. But he said there was one suggestion he didn't dare ignore - an apparent mob threat to leave. Salvatore Accardi left the podium Thursday as conductor of Mozart's Don Giovan-ni at Naples' San Carlo Theatre after receiving anonymous threatening phone calls, newspapers re-ported Saturday. The 53-year-old violinist described the messages, in which he was told in a thick Neapolitan accent to "get out," as "an unmistakable mafia-type threat." Police have opened an investigation. But exactly why the mob would target Accardo was not clear, and suspicion has been raised that Accardo's sudden departure is a response to the whistles from the audience and the barbs from opera critics. His contract with San Carlo runs until August. The theatre's .. superintendent, Francesco Canessa, gave short shrift to Accardo's claims. "Accardo is physically and psychologically drained, and hasn't been able to get over what rightly or wrongly, has been a flop for him," he said.

## Voter apathy marks Kyrgyzstan election

BISHKEK (R) — Kyrgyz-stan voted Sunday in its first elections since independence to a new twin-chamber parliament set up to replace the Soviet legislature thrown out last year by President Askar Akayev for blocking his re-

Polls opened at 7 a.m. (0200 GMT) and closed at 8 p.m. (1500 GMT). Preliminary results are expected Mon-

Early voting was sluggish, with just 10 per cent of the electorate turning out in the first four hours, the central Election Commission said.

Around 1,000 candidates are standing for the 35-seat Legislative Assembly, a fulltime lawmaking body, and the 70-seat People's Assembly, which will meet twice a

Early voters at School 24 in Bishkek pored over two ballots listing 30 candidates, including academics, journalists. businessmen and

One middle-aged voter, Zholdashkbek Zhandayev, said he had voted for a businessman standing for the People's Assembly.

'İ don't know his programme, but he is a manufacturer and Kyrgyzstan needs consumer goods," he said.
"I didn't know anyone standing for the Legislative

Assembly so I just made a

blind choice," he added. More than a dozen parties are participating — with the Communists the largest with 40 candidates. But parties have out up less than a fifth of the total runners, leaving most voters to make a rough choice on the basis of name,

age or profession. President Akayev voted mid-morning and told reporters voters faced tough choices because parties had not yet built a wide social

He urged voters to turn out in runoffs on Feb. 19 to make sure the necessary 50 per cent participation is achieved to make the elections valid.

Without doubt this is going to be a transitional parliament because I am sure that we are still not grown up enough to have a professional

parliament," he added.
The 50-year-old physicistturned-president has led this mountain state of 4.5 million on the Chinese frontier through ambitious market reforms since independence in

But, in a scene reminiscent of former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, he was remained of the reforms' social cost when an old lady berated him that she was not getting her pension and could not make ends meet.

Election observers touring the country reported widespread voter apathy and said they expected turnout to be

Jacques Roussellier of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) said the elections were poorly organised and the legal framework murky but they were still the most democratic held in Central

# Winter storm hits parts of U.S., disrupts travel

WASHINGTON (R) - A port remained open throughfierce winter storm roared into the northeastern United States Saturday, dumping up to 16 inches (40-cm) of snow and wreaking havoc on travel as airports closed and roads were glazed with sheets of

"This is clearly the biggest storm of the season in a lot of places," said Meteorologist Jim Candor of Accu-Weather Inc. of State College, Pennsylvania. The storm, which followed

a relatively mild start to winter in the U.S. east, also ushered in high winds and freezing temperatures and thousands of air passengers were stranded either at home or in airport terminals. Travel snafus were les-

sened because the storm hit. on a weekend, but flights were delayed or cancelled up and down the east coast and authorities reported a string of minor accidents on iceslickened roads.

"They're just fender benders and guys sliding into the barriers," a Massachusetts state trooper said.

New York's La Guardia and John F. Kennedy Airports were ordered closed early Saturday, but reopened after six to eight hours respectively providing limited services. By early afternoon one of IFK's four runways and one of La Guardia's two runways were operational. New Jersey's Newark Air-

BUENOS AIRES (R) — His

popularity boosted by Argen-

tines' fear of a Mexico-style

crisis, President Carlos

Menem has launched his re-

election campaign with a

huge rally that married laser

displays and giant images of Evita Peron.

State television carried the

prime-time Saturday night

event live for an hour and a

half from the Atlantic resort

of Mar Del Plata and put

attendance at 100,000. Police

estimated the crowd at

has become a serious, credi-

ble, trustworthy country

attention even for the

greatest powers on earth," Mr. Menem said to the thun-

der of dozens of bass drums

beaten by approving suppor-

The Peronist president is

seeking a second term to

consolidate what he calls

Argentina's "economic mira-

rapid growth. He has in-creased his lead ahead of the

May 14 vote since Mexico

devalued its peso in Decem-

The shock waves that hit

Latin American's emerging

economies gave him an extra

10 percentage points because

voters see him as a guarantee

of stability, a poll published

the government, gave Mr.

menem 37.2 per cent of vot-

ing intentions in greater

Buenos Aires - home to

one-third of Argentina's 33

million population — against

15.8 per cent for the Radical

Party of his predecessor,

A centre-left front that had

earlier emerged as a possible

The poll, commissioned by

Saturday showed.

Raul Alfonsin.

of low inflation and

...which is the centre of

"Our beloved Argentina

Menem launches campaign

out the night but had limited arrival and departure services. Air traffic was snarled at Philadelphia International

Airport. Boston's Logan Airport was closed early Saturday afternoon but was expected to open later in the day. Baltimore-Washington International was operating only one of its four runways, an airport spokesman said.

Forecasters had given plenty of advance warning about the storm, prompting frenzied shoppers to jam area supermarkets Friday to stock up on food. Authorities in many cities contracted for additional snowplows. New York City officially

had nine inches (23-cm) of snow, which by mid-day had turned to rain. City officials placed 3,000

sanitation workers on alert to continuously operate 1.850 snowplows and spreaders in an attempt to keep primary roads passable to traffic.

They appealed to people to stay home and keep warm. Those who had to go out were urged to use mass tran-

Snow denths reached over one foot (30-cm) north and west of Philadelphia, with drifts at least twice as deep. An area between Philadelphia and New York was hardest hit, with Princeton. New Jersey hit by 16 inches (40-cm), Mr. Candor said. Evita enters laser age as

second force came in third in

the poil with 14.2 per cent.

Mr. Menem exulted at the

formal launch of his ticket.

laughing, winking into state

television cameras and clap-

ping his hands to the beat of

the crowd's rendition of a

popular hit by the title of

His vice-president candi-

date, former Interior Minis-

ter Carlos Ruckauf, used Mr.

Menem's handling of the fall-

out from the Mexican crisis to

urge voters to back him

in the Americans shook.

when it seemed a monster

wave from Mexico was about

to sweep it all away, once

again the skipper managed to

keep the boat on course," he

roared. "Menem knows the

But Mr. Ruckauf also men-

tioned unemployment - at

more than 12 per cent, one of

the weak flanks of the "eco-

nomic miracle" - and

quoted Evita, the legendary

first wife of party founder

Juan Domingo Peron who

roused crowds in his support.

not part of statistics. He is, as

Evita taught us, a gaping

Mr. Menem, irked by the

embarrassingly high unem-

ployment figure published

last month, has described it

as misleading and says he wants the calculation

"I have no doubts that the

coming years too will be

years of growth and develop-

ment," he told the crowd.

"Brothers and sisters, let's

win let's win let's win" he

urged as a shower of fire-

works lit up the night sky.

wound in our heart,"

Ruckauf said.

method revised.

"For us a jobless man is

"Just now when everything

Matador' "Killer."

Bolstered by these figures,

# Gingrich: NAŠA should have been disbanded

WALESKA, Georgia (R) -U.S. House of Representa-tives Speaker Newt Gingrich said that the U.S. space agency NASA should have been disbanded after the Apollo space programme ended in

In a history lecture at Reinhardt College in this small north Georgia town, Mr. Gingrich said he generally favours governmentfunded science and technology programmes. But he criti-cised the National Aeronautics and Space Administraton (NASA) for becoming increasingly bureaucratic the longer it survived.

"The government can do basic research and development or the government can come out here and set up the Apollo project," the Georgia Republican said in a lesson on breakthroughs in innova-

"Remember, NASA was brand new. They built it up, they did it and if they'd disbanded it at that point, I think they'd have been better

"You build a project team, you get the job done and then you close it down and start a new project. If you keep people there, they become obsolescent they become bureaucratic."

But when asked later what he thinks should be done with NASA now, Mr. Gingrich said he would not favour scrapping the space agency altogether.

"I'm not proposing that we abolish NASA," he said after a town hall meeting in the nearby town of Smyrna. "I think it ought to be thoroughly overhauled. My point was that if we had a system where you would constantly be reformulating based on missions rather than on a zone, you'd have more talent and more energy."



The first woman space shuttle pliot Elleen Collins goes through a switch check list on the

PORT-AU-PRINCE (R) -The tenure of Haiti's fractious Chamber of Deputies came to an end Saturday. drawing the curtain on four years of turbulence marked by corruption, gunfire and fisticuffs, diplomats and

politicians said. The only unfinished business left was the closing ceremony at the run-down Legislative Palace and the deputies were to meet later in the day to preside over a final curtain fall that few people were sad to see come.

The entire 83-seat Chamber of Deputies and twothirds of the 27-man Senate are up for reelection.

"The parliament is a mess," one American diplomat said recently. The diplomat, who described the lawmakers as "dysfunctional," was in the chamber various times during the last few vears and saw some amazing performances.

A year ago, U.S. Ambas-sador William Swing was quickly hustled out of the

Haiti parliament ends turbulent tenure after scuffles broke out between rival politicians. On other ocassions guns

have been drawn and in par-

liament's blackest day, shortly after the 1991 coup that deposed President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, soldiers borst into the chamber and sprayed it with gunfire.

chamber by his bodyguards

Less violent but no less embarrassing is the chamber's parliamentary record over the last four years. Few serious laws have been passed and those that were re-

# Stories of past womanising haunt Clinton anew

WASHINGTON (AFP) - A new book claiming that President Bill Clinton's alleged extra-marital affairs prevented him from seeking the Democratic presidential nomination in 1988 has put the White House on the de-

First In His Class, a biography of Mr. Clinton by Washington Post reporter David Maraniss, claims that the then-Arkansas governor gave up his bid for the 1988 party nod after his chief of staff Betsey Wright asked him for a list of women he

had affairs with. Mr. Clinton and Ms. Wright reviewed the list twice to assess which women would go public and which would not. Ms. Wright reportedly advised Mr. Clinton after the review not to get into the

The womanising issue was a key topic in 1988, with tales of an extramarital affair forcing the leading Democratic contender Gary Hart to relinquish his bid for the presiden-

The issue did not fade for

Mr. Clinton when he sought the office in 1992 nor has it subsided since he became president.

Mr. Maraniss also wrote that "She (Wright) was convinced that some state troopers were soliciting women for him and he for them." "I think that David Maran-

iss may have misunderstood what I told him about the

troopers," Ms. Wright said in a statement. "What I believe is that some of them solicited women for themselves, exploiting the fact that they worked for the governor. I do not believe that they ever solicited women for the gov-

ernor, certainly not with his

knowledge," she added. "There are some matters discussed in that book that were raised during the course of the president's 1992 campaign and they were effectively dealt with at that time. " White House spokesman Michael McCurry said

"And beyond that, I'm not sure there's anything that's particularly newsworthy that deserves further comment, he added

Mr. Maraniss stood by his story, saying he had inter-viewed Ms. Wright several times and met with her prior to the work's release to review the sections of the book with which she was involved. "Her response at the time

was that I had fairly and accurately reported what she had said," Mr. Maraniss told the Post. Gennifer Flowers claimed

during the 1992 race that she had had a previous relationship with Mr. Clinton. Paula Jones filed suit against Mr. Clinton last year, ming he made a sexual advance toward her during a 1991 business meeting in Little Rock Arkansas when he was still governor and she was a state employee.

Mr. Clinton ran most of the campaign by downplaying the allegations. Media cover age finally forced him to hold a news conference with his wife in which admitted that their marriage had "some problems". The Jones suit is among the key cases that have forced the Clintons to establish a special donation fund for legal de-

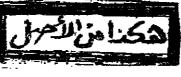
The legal fund raised \$608.000 between last June and December, but the Clintons still owe nearly \$1 million, the fund reported Fri-The book also shed more

light on another touchy issue for Mr. Clinton: His military draft history.

1960s Mr. Clinton sought to join the Reserve Officers Training Corps. By joining the group, he was able to avoid being drafted into service in Vietnam.

According to the book, when Mr. Clinton was runuing for the House of Representatives in 1974 he asked an ROTC leader to destroy a compromising letter on the

However Mr. Clinton did not know a copy of the letter existed and that document came back to haunt him in





Diana count can be passed the first inhabitants of the village of Kekerdom returning in the Ooijpolder. Carrying his few belongings in a bag he passes the dyke which recently kept the water of the

swollen River Wall from his home. All people living in the polder were evacuated due to the threat of the dyke breaking (AFP photo)

# CONDON (R) Conductive are problemed. Majority of Dutch flood evacuees return home dispersion bugged at the phone call is Dutch flood evacuees responsible by Phone call is Dutch flood evacuees resp

Princess Diag Pertied to appear a majority of dikes around the Siet this month at New Zealander downstream Maas and Waal rivers safe.

Tarior and Minori Swollen rivers had forced some 250,000 people to evacuate last week in country's worst natural disas-Simons, Mushed a receding water levels had Simons Munhead a receding water account already allowed around already anomals as already anomals as back - that a telephor home Friday and Saturday.

Some 180,000 people in heir staff was and around the towns of Tiel and around the declared and Culemborg, declared and Cultimore, safe Sunday, were welcomed in followed by improvised road signs which read "welcome home, wmen read welcome and "mobile police unit salutes

Ooipolder." Those returning home expressed their gratitude to the army and emergency services who had toiled all week to strengthen dikes and guard homes against the

threat of looting. Relieved inhabitants of the loons thanking their fellow countrymen. "Thank you Holland," one said.

Officials said water levels on the Rhine, Maas and Waal rivers were now falling at a rate of 60 cm (24 inches) a day and had dropped two metres since they peaked Wednesday.

The last 15,000 evacuees. primarily from around Gorinchem, the most western part of the evacuated regions,. would probably be allowed home Monday, the mayor of Gorinchem said.

But a dike inspector said the Waal River dikes around Gorinchem had been ripped apart due to the intense pressure of the swollen rivers and the sudden drop in water

"The water pressure in that dike is still very high and it will take a few days before it is as safe as it was before the floods," he told national

As a continued safety measure to protect dikes, no cars and trucks were allowed on the water defences.

"We have to take very good care of our dikes now," said Ed Van Tellingen, the mayor of the medieval town of Tiel on the banks of the

The week-long crisis sparked intense criticism of the government and environmentalists for delaying work to strengthen this low-lying country's vital flood de-

But the floods also triggered a reappraisal of the origin of the Dutch nation's unity, forged in a constant

struggle against the tides. "Every generation needs its flooding to remain aware of what we are, people living on land reclaimed from the sea through a united efforts," one broadcaster said.

The government said last week that it would speed up an existing programme of

Prime Minister Wim Kok announced a compensation scheme late Friday, which many flood victims said did not go far enough.

Mr. Kok said households would have to bear the first 2,000 guilders (\$1,176) of damage themselves but the government would reimburse any damage above this amount. For those who suffered in the December 1993 floods too, the threshold would be lowered to 1,000 guilders (\$588).

Companies will have to bear the first 2,000 guilders of damage and will receive 65 per cent of any additional costs, or 90 per cent if they were also hit by the 1993 floods.

The Chamber of Comspokesman, said Saturday merce in Gelderland proevening in Rio that negovince has estimated that the tiators sent new proposals to floods and evacuation have the presidents of Peru and cost over one billion guilders Ecuador earlier in the day, (\$588 million). and said talks would continue

> "We have received requests from both governments, particularly from one.

BELFAST (R) — Protestant

Ulster Unionist leader James

determined bid to block Dub-

lin's involvement in British-

Raising the stakes in a row

that could bring down Prime

ity government, Mr.

liamentary seats in the pro-

ruled Northern Ireland.

# **Ecuador claims more Peruvian** attacks as Rio talks drag on

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) Less than a day after Peru and Ecuador agreed in principle to end their border dispute, Ecuador claimed Peruvian jungle fighters had attacked its border posts again.

Skirmishes occurred Saturday in the jungled mountains along the border 220 miles (350 kilometres) southeast of Quito, Ecuadorean officials

They described the clashes as of "lower intensity" than previous fighting and said they had no information on casualties.

Peruvian officials had no comment on the reports. Peru sent soldiers experienced in fighting Maoist guerrillas to the disputed region last week.

The attacks came a day after negotiators from Peru and Ecuador, meeting in Brazil, announced they had reached agreement in principle to end the 10-day border conflict and set up a demilitarised zone. The agreement was contingent on the presidents of both nations giving final approval to the details.

cerned with the delay in

Ecuador had agreed to a simultaneous withdrawal of troops but Peru wants the Ecuadoreans to withdraw first, said Ecuadorean spokesman Santiago Aguilar. In Rio De Janeiro, Ecuador's main representative to the talks, Marcelo Fernandez De Cordova, said his nation was "deeply con-

reaching a definitive suspension of hostilities." But Peru's chief delegate, Eduardo Ponce, responded that the Ecuadoreans were from a 1941 war that Ecuador "trying to gain international sympathy by presenting

themselves as victims." Antonio Barros Simoes, a Brazilian Foreign Ministry

mined the border area. Reporters who have visited



Brazilian Vice Foreign Minister Sebastiao Do Rego Barros (left) talks to the press during a break in negotiations dealing with the Peru-Ecuador border dispute at the Itamaraty Palace in Rio De Janeiro. Representatives of the guarantor countries of the 1941 peace

treaty between Peru and Ecuador, Juan Jose Uranga (2nd-left) of Argentina, Fabio Vio (3rd-left) of Chile, Alexander Watson (2ndright) of the U.S., and Mr. Barros are continuing their meetings to find a diplomatic solution to the dispute (AFP photo)

for more time to consider the latest proposals." Mr. Barros said, without elaborating.

Inside the negotiating room, about 10 weary-eyed negotiators from the United States, Chile, Argentina and Brazil sat around a rectangular table covered with a detailed map of the disputed area, empty cups of coffee, crumpled paper and ashtrays

filled with cigarette butts.
At least 20 people have been killed in fighting that erupted Jan. 26 over an unmarked 50-mile (80kilometre) portion of the border. The conflict over the area, which may contain gold, uranium and oil, stems

Each side claims the other started the latest flareup. Ecuador says eight of its

soldiers have died in the fighting and two are missing and believed dead. Peru acknowledges it has lost 11 soldiers but claims to have killed about 43 Ecuadorean soldiers. One Peruvian civilian was killed after stepping on a land mine. Both sides have

the area say the Ecuadorean Ecuador's National Comtroops are dug into the mountaintops and have hon-

Peru contends the entire 160-kilometre border was established in a 1942 agreement. Ecuador declared the agreement null in 1960, before the border was fully marked.

eycombed the terrain with

tunnels.

The agreement was guaranteed by the United States, Argentina, Chile and Brazil.

Skirmishes also occurred in the area in 1981. Peru and Ecuador mutually accuse each other of attacking posts with their territory, but they have taken

sharply different tacks on

how to tell the world their side of the border conflict. Ecuador, apparently wellprepared for the hostilities, has bombarded the media with official communiques, interviews with high-level officials and trips to the front

along its border with Peru. The coverage of informa tion has constituted one of the pillars to confront the Peruvian aggression on the

frontier," a statement from

munications Secretariat said. "It is being said Ecuador is winning the information

For its part, Peru accuses Ecuador of carrying out a well-managed campaign of disinformation aimed at portraying Lima as the "aggressor from the south," a Goliath trying to bully its smaller neighbour.

"It is obvious we are dealing with a campaign of information intoxification on the part of the Ecuadorean Armed Forces," said Peru's army chief General Nicolas Hermoza Thursday in his first press briefing since hostilities broke out a week earlier.

But Peruvian officials remain huddled with the president behind closed doors. The jonit chiefs of staff has issued two official communiques since the fighting began.

When Gen. Hermoza did speck, he took no questions. adorean counterpart called a press briefing to "categorically deny" most of Gen. ermoza's statements.

Both sides have offered varying casualty tolls.

# Sarajevo blast anniversary marked quietly

SARAJEVO (R) — The people of Sarajevo marked the first anniversary Sunday of the Merkale Market massacre, a bloody city-centre mortar blast that galvanised international will to intensify United Nations peace efforts

in Bosnia. No official ceremonies were scheduled and shoppers thronged the food market where on Feb. 5, 1994, a total of 68 people died from the impact of a mortar bomb in the worst single atrocity of

The attack set in train diplomatic and military peace initiatives which obliged Serbs, under threat of NATO air strikes, to remove most of their tanks and siege guns from around the city and after many months of mediation culminated in a fourmonth ceasefire that took effect on Jan. 1 this year.

Fighting now is mainly confined to the northwestern Bihac pocket which troops of the Muslim-led Bosnian government army are defending against rebel Muslims armed and aided by Serbs.

The Sarajevo newspaper Oslobodjenje regretted that the international mediation. although it has ended much of the bloodletting, has made little diplomatic progress.

only example of when the soulless world made a serious threat to the criminals," it

said in an editorial. "If the criminals had really been frightened, Sarajevo wouldn't be an occupied city. Bosnia would be a free country. But that's not the way it

Muslims and Serbs blamed each other for firing the fatal mortar bomb and U.N. peacekeepers said their investigation was unable to determine which side was responsible.

The incident occurred just days before the opening of the 1994 Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway, and this helped the world remember that just 10 years earlier the same games had been staged in Sarajevo, then part

of the Yugoslav Federation. As Sarajevans haggled Sunday over the price of vegetables at the market, and the parents of one victim laid a lone wreath, commanders of the Muslim, Serb and Croat armies were due to meet United Nations officials to discuss reinforcing the

ceasefire. The rivals were expected to discuss mapping of the front lines so that U.N. peacekeepers could be deployed be-

tween them.

military commanders were serious about enforcing the ceasefire.

In Zagreb, the chief of staff of the Croatian army defended his government's decision to evict U.N. peacekeepers from rebel Serb enclaves on Croatian territory but denied that the move was intended to provoke war.

Croatia has refused to renew the U.N. mandate that expires on March 31 and has given the United Nations until June 30 to remove its 2,000 men from the third of Croatian soil which the Croa-

tian Serbs hold. The Serbs, who fear repression if they submit themselves to rule from Zagreb, have set up the Republic of Serb Krajina (RSK) which effectively exists under U.N.

protection Zagreb believes they will be more amenable to negotiations if the U.N. buffer is removed.

Gen. Bobetko told Reuters in an interview: "Croatia is made out to be less interested in peace and more interested in solving problems with other means, as if cancelling the U.N. mandate meant making way for re-newed conflict. It's just the

special court.

adopted a nine-point plan here Sunday to save their

The U.S.-brokered plan idess for the nomination ated last March.

ficit was also meeting in parailel in Munich Sunday to try to breathe new life into general Bosnian peace efforts.

resentatives agreed to abide by the decisions of an appointed mediator who is to chosen by common accords between the parties, said Mr. Holbrooke, who spoke of an "excellent" meeting.

In addition, a standing state of the federation.

will provide experts in constitutional law to shore up the federation's institutions and mediation sub-groups will be detailed to iron out differences between "specific communities" with a view to extending cooperation with the

Muslim-Croatian federation from breaking apart, talks chairman and U.S. diplomat Richard Holbrooke said.

of an international mediator to solve differences at the heart of the federation, cre-The five-power "contact roup" on the Bosnian con-

Croatian and Bosnian rep-

Mr. Molyneaux was ready to withdraw support from the British government if it advnominated by a person anced plans from its talks with Dublin to set up a powerful cross-border auhority But Gerry Adams, presi-

committee will be created in Sarajevo to supervise the Meanwhile, the two sides

dent of the Irish Republican Army's (IRA) political wing Sinn Fein, warned Mr. Major not to dilute the peace plan to ensure his own political sur-

Mr. Adams said there was as British prime minister and Molyneaux has put his party a risk Mr. Major might seek to lead his party into govern-

> Anglo-Irish peace plan to placate the Unionists on whose votes the government is heavily dependent. He issued a statement at the end of a turbulent week

Minister John Major's minorin which Mr. Major was warned by Unionist MPs that Molyneaux has ordered his they would bring down his constituency parties to pick candidates in all 17 parminority government if the peace plan threatened their cherished British status. Party sources confirmed

Mr. Major was forced to address the nation to calm their fears after a newspaper leak said the plan envisaged cross-border bodies which would bring Northern Ireland much closer to reunification with Ireland.

There is a grave danger at this time that John Major may attempt to placate the Unionists while paying lip service to the need for change," Mr. Adams said.

"His concern is to survive after the next election," he

Unionists hold 13 seats in the British parliament where Mr. Major heads what is technically a minority administration after a rebellion by right-wing conservatives against his European Union policies.

added.

It was thought to be the first time Mr. Adams had raised the spectre of a coalition government if Mr. Major's is brought down and echoed fears in Irish Nationalist circles that his domestic problems might set the peace process back radi-

cally. The Anglo-Irish initiative is at a critical stage, waiting for the two governments to agree on a so-called framework documentsetting out the next phase of what

N. Irish unionists put on election footing they launched in December

That plan lured the IRA 25-year war against British rule, and was followed by a truce by Protestant loyalist gunmen fighting to keep it. Mr. Adams called on britain to begin new all-party talks as soon as possible — Britain has yet to hold official talks with Sinn Fein, and wants IRA and loyalist arms surrendered before conven-

ing any new forum. The framework steps are expected to include crossborder bodies to rationalise economic cooperation between the two Irish neighbours and to foster new

north-south trust. Unionists fear that they will be run by executive bodies which will dilute thir sovereignty and nudge the province closer to reunification with the Catholic Irish

### U.N. sources said the out-In Munich, Germany, "The (aftermath of the) come would show whether Merkale Market is maybe the leaders of Croatia and Bosnia European Union.

Walesa plunges Polish WARSAW (R) - President Lech Walesa, having plunged Poland's entire political scene into chaos, is now waiting to

see what rewards he can Mr. Walesa threatened late last week to dissolve parliament unless it ditched leftist Prime Minister Waldemar

Pawlak.

weekend, leaving Mr. Pawlak and his ex-communist coalition partners quarrelling angrily and parliament in tur-

finitely not dissolve parliament this weekend. On Monday he will think it over,

Then he flew home to the port city of Gdansk for the

moil. "The president will de-Mr. Walesa's lawyer Lech Falandysz told a radio inter-

viewer Friday. On Saturday the lower house decided by 376 to 16. with 16 abstentions, that if Mr. Walesa tried to dismiss parliament using the controversial legal grounds he has cited, they would defy

Throughout the weekend Poles were speculating what Mr. Walesa would do, and trying to understand why.

him and haul him up before a

politics into turmoil Mr. Walesa accuses Mr.

But many commentators suggest the former Solidarity

### Pawlak's government of stalling reforms, of being plauged by scandal, and of trying to usurp his authority.

Union leader's chief concern is presidential elections due late this year, in which he intends to seek a second fiveyear term.

# Daughter: China's destiny is out of Deng's hands

father was ailing and unable to walk, causing concern in

Deng Maomao stressed "the rules of nature" in speaking of her father's health, as she did in a brief interview with Agence France-Presse, the French news agency. "It is impossi-

Deng Maomao arrived in Paris earlier Saturday. She was to go on to the United States Feb. 10, but made no mention of that visit in her TV interview.

Paris when he "opted for communism." She said that period proved "a very important influence" in his career. A second book that will deal with contemporary China is planned, she said.

# Power battle in Indian Congress moves to climax

NEW DELHI (R) - The battle for power in India's ruling Congress Party moves towards a climax this week with Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao expected to expel his arch-rival Arjun

Singh for anti-party activities. The power struggle is being plaved out against a backdrop of sagging party elector-al fortunes, with Congress facing a major challenge this week in statewide polls in its traditional stronghold of

Maharashtra. "The politics of dissension and dissidence should be thrown away," Mr. Rao said Sunday as he stomped the campaign trail in the western state of Maharashtra.

Mr. Singh, who resigned as human resources minister on Dec. 24, has accused Mr. Rao of ignoring the Muslims and lower castes that have traditionally supported the Congress Party.

The former party number two has become a focus for dissent in Congress. But his support remains patchy, and he is unlikely to be able to block a decision to expel him by the party disciplinary committee, which is dominated by Rao loyalists.

The committee suspended Mr. Singh on Jan. 24, saying he had capitalised on Congress election reverse in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka to advance his own political ambitions.

It later presented him with a formal "charge-sheet" accusing him of anti-party and anti-government activities, giving Mr. Singh four days to answer. Mr. Rao later extended the time limit for a response.

Mr. Singh has said he will

answer the charges, which he

calls "totally misconceived

and delightfully vague," on Monday. The disciplinary committee will consider his response Tuesday, and Mr. Rao is expected to direct that he be expelled. Indian commentators are agreed that Mr. Singh will find it much more difficult

capture the party as did former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Few credit Mr. Singh with the stature of Mrs. Gandhi within the party. But many party grandees are awaiting the results of

elections in six states this

once he has been expelled to

month and next before deciding which way to jump. Defeats for Congress in Maharashtra and Gujarat, the two states it holds where a vote is taking place, would leave the ruling controlling just a handful of states, with the two biggest, Madhya Pradesh and Kerala, in the

hands of Singh loyalists. With fears growing of a Congress debacle general elections due by June 1996, the pressure on Mr. Rao to step aside would then increase dramatically.

Mr. Singh is not the only possible contender for the party leadership. His current ally N.D. Tiwari, the former Congress chief in India's most populous state Uttar Pradesh, is also waiting in the wings and could benefit from Mr. Singh's expulsion.

But Mr. Singh is not going to be squeezed out without a fight. This weekend he produced one of his trump cards, in the shape of Sonia Gandhi, widow of the assassinated former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Italian-born Sonia is now the senior member of the Nehru-Gandhi family that has run the party and ruled India for much of its postindependence history and still commands almost religious loyalty from much of the Congress rank-and-file.

Her decision Saturday night to attend an annual party in New Delhi given Mr. Singh, where last year Mr. Rao was the chief guest, sent a clear message of the views of the Gandhi dynasty.

The Congress Party is expected to suffer a setback in crucial elections in the country's most industrialised state of Maharashtra, according to an opinion poll published

Sunday. But Maharashtra Chief Minister Sharad Pawar dis-

missed the poll saying Congress, which has initiated wide-ranging economic reform in India, would sweep

home with an absolute

majority. Development of the state. liberalisation and the benefit of foreign investment will see us through," he told repor-ters during a campaign trip.

Mr. Rac launched a last-

minute round of campaigning Sunday ahead of the elections, which take place in two phases on Feb. 9 and 12. Opinion polls have been showing the rightwing Hindu Bharativa Janata Party (BJP) and Shiv Sena (SS) alliance gaining ground over Congress in Maharashtra, India's

industrial heartland which includes the commercial banking centre of Bombay. In the latest poll published at the weekend by India Today magazine and the Marketing And Research Group (MARG), Congress is shown with 23.3 per cent of the vote, against 38.2 per

cent in the last state elections

in 1989. The BJP-SS alliance is forecast to raise its share of the vote to 31.2 per cent. against 26.6 per cent in 1989.

The left of centre Janata Dai Party is shown steady with 16.4 per cent of the vote. compared with 16.8 per cent last time. Other parties, don't knows and independents make up the rest.

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PARIS (AP) — The daugh-

ter of Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping said that her father was in good health for a 91-yer-dold man but that the destiny of China was already in the hands of a new team. Deng Maomao, also known as Deng Rong, said she hoped that foreign na-

tions would begin to shift

their attention more to her

father's successors. She

spoke after arriving in Paris

to promote her book, Deng Xiaoping My Father.
"He is 91 years old. He is in good health. But obviously he is aging," she said in an interview on France's state-

run television channel. "If he were in very bad health, I would not have been

added. appear on television recently, she replied: "Mr. Deng did not appear on television because there is already a team of successors... who are entering a transition period of (the nation's) political direc-

able to come," to Paris, she

Asked why he did not tion. Mr. Deng is already renred.

"The destiny of China is

now in the hands of the new

team," she said, adding, "I

hope our foreign friends can

show more concern about the

new team." Mr. Deng's daughter, in an interview last month with the New York Times, said her

foreign capitals about the Chinese leadership, she later backtracked on that somber analysis in favour of softer wording about her father's health that followed the government's approach.

ble that he becomes younger and younger. He will become older an dolder," the agency quoted her as saying.

Her book covers the first 45 year's of her father's life. including a five-year stay in

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GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices: Jordan Press Foundation. University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan. Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

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# Stop inhuman trade

INDIA'S DECISION Saturday to ban the sale of human organs brings to the fore a grave human rights problem that remained brushed under the carpet for so long. The bold Indian step came in the wake of the arrest of hospital employees for "forcing" some unemployed people to donate their kidneys for patients outside the country in return for money and promises of job opportunities.

In recent years, the trade in human organs from developing countries to rich nations has reached almost endemic proportions ever since organ transplant became medically possible. Many efforts were made in the past to curb this inhuman phenomenon but with very little success. Human rights watchers have repeatedly portrayed a horrific picture of poor children being smuggled from one end of the world to the other for the purpose of transplanting their organs into the bodies of those who can afford the operation. Poor adults have also fell easy prey to international gangs engaged in organ trade. This is not the same as donors consenting to giving a kidney to another patient in dire need of the organ. Rather it is an illegal trade by which the economic conditions of some people are being exploited by "forcing" them to sell their organs to the rich in the developed world. There must be countries other than India that have also outlawed the trafficking in human organs for financial gains. What is lacking still is a coordinated international effort in which all countries would cooperate to check the expanding trade in human organs. Children in particular are most vulnerable, especially those who became known as "street children." Here in the Middle East, there is also a pressing need to work out a regional agreement on this subject before it becomes too late. The United Nations Commission on Human Rights is presently convening in Geneva to address a long list of human rights issues. It would be most opportune to call for an urgent debate on the subject of trading in human organs during this year's session. Trading in human parts is one symptom of the relationship between the rich North and the poor South. The North cannot possibly convince the South of the universality of human rights if issues like this are not addressed and corrected. Exploitation of the poor, especially of the poor's health, is one of the worst violations of human rights.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Ra'i daily Sunday commented on a visit to Jordan by Omani Foreign Minister Yousef Ben Alawi and his talks with His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker by saying that the visit falls within the framework of an effort on the part of Oman and Jordan to coordinate their positions regarding the establishment of solidarity among Arab states. Before the Omani minister. Palestine leader Yasser Arafat and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak visited and talks with them mainly focused on the manner in which the Arab states can regain their unified ranks, the paper said. Jordan's participation in the Arab-Israeli summit in Cairo was another milestone in the Kingdom's continued efforts to rally Arab ranks on all fronts at this crucial stage in the region's history, it continued. The paper noted that Jordan is not confining itself to the peace treaty with Israel and is giving due attention to relations with the other Arab states, which must be strengthened so that Jordan's position can be bolstered in the face of any challenge. The paper said that it is clear that Jordan has not sufficed itself with the peace treaty with Israel and is clearly seeking ways aimed at securing a comprehensive peace on all Israeli Arab tracks.

A columnist in Al Dustour daily Sunday demanded that stricter measures be imposed on merchants dealing in basic foodstuffs to stem the spiralling rise in prices. Mohammad Daoud said that despite the declared measures which the Ministry of Supply has promised to take to bridle prices and thwart the merchants manipulations including the publication of their names and addresses in the local press, nothing has materialised and the prices continue to rise adding to the misery of the needy and the limited income families.

### **Human Rights File**

# Homosexuality justified!

THERE ARE increasing calls in many Western countries to outlaw discrimination between people on the basis of sexual orientation. Gays and lesbians have been accepted more and more as partners enjoying equal rights as hetrosexually married people. Recent court decisions have gone as far as allowing state family support services to married" homosexuals on par with those available to legally married people. Recently a Canadian court has ruled in favour of a gay couple by accepting their application for a legal custody over a child to raise as a family." Closer to home, Israel's Supreme court has also moved in a recent decision to discard differential treatment between homosexuals and hetrosexuals, and in the process precipitated a storm in the country with many political leaders accusing the court of eroding the Jewish character of the country.

This trend is also reaching international human rights bodies where there is also an increasing call for according homosexuals and hetrosexuals equal treatment. While the battle within international fora on this issue is far from being over, recent medical evidence appears to to strengthen the hands of those who call for equal treatment to all kinds of sexual relationships or partnerships. The scientific findings on this point seem to corroborate the hypothesis that sexual orientation is genetically determined with individuals having no choice in the matter. In this vein it was found that brains of people prone to homosexual activity have something that is absent from the brains of "normal" people.

If this new scientific discovery is further corroborated, then there is every reason not to condemn people with "abnormal" sexual orientation and to end discrimination against them. This issue will surely dominate human rights debates in the upcoming years with the Western countries pushing harder than ever to eradicate discrimination against gays and lesbians. This trend is bound to put human rights activists at loggerheads with traditionalists who still believe that homosexuality is promoted by environmental considerations and their sexual behaviours are condemnable by all monotheistic religions.

By Waleed Sa'di

Of course, such a debate has no room in our society since our list of human rights priorities has not reached that level. Yet sooner or later, we will have to discuss this controversial subject out in the open because we also have amongst us many homosexuals whose treatment may have to be reexamined. The debate would not be so easy, especially since it would necessarily have many religious and social overtunes attached to it. Yet is is never too early to start thinking about this subject.

To begin with, we cannot expect to endorse the new Western point of view on the subject in a precipitious way. It took Western culture many generations to move towards its present course. We should continue to discourage homosexuality but we should also begin the process of understanding it better. Above all, we may begin to view it not so much as an evil but rather as a disease or rather as an abberation in social and biological conduct that is treatable. As long as there is credible medical evidence that would shed more light on the homosexual phenomenon so that we start to view those of us who are part of it not as culpable

people but rather as a group of people who are afflicted by a biological disorder over which they have no control.

Of course we are not talking here of people who commit such acts in a violent way or against minors. Such people should continue to be penalised exactly the same way as normal people who commit violent sexual crimes. In the final analysis, though, what counts most is awareness of the problem, its extent and how best to deal with it. Sweeping the issue under the carpet is not exactly the most sensible

way of dealing with it.



# Food irradiation way for future

By Ala'a Taher

WITH THE population explosion in our world today, world food needs continue to escalate as problems in food storage and distribution arise. Since early times, the most sought-after technology for food was its preservation. Food preservation methods in developing countries are not fully evolved, resulting in immense food losses. Even in industrial nations, the pursuit for alternative methods for food preservation continues. Over a third of the world's production of food is lost as a result of inefficient storage, rapid ripening, bacterial contamination and insect infestation. Studies indicate that such losses amount to millions of tonnes per year, valued at billions of dollars.

Throughout history, re-search has been exhaustive on the problem of food contamination. Food borne disease have claimed many lives worldwide. The United Nation's joint expert Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and World Health Organisation (WHO) committee on food safety stated that "iliness due to contaminated food is perhaps the most widespread health problem in the contemporary world and an important cause of reduced economic produc-

This is where food irradiation plays a prominent role. It is a process that has countless applications in the food industry. This process is used to preserve food, avoid food losses after harvesting, and prevent the spread of food borne dis-

The name by itself can cause misleading fears to the consumer. This article will attempt to clarify false fables and explain why food irradiation could be vital to developing countries like

Food irradiation is the treatment of food by a cer-

tain kind of energy. The process involves the exposure of the food product to minute dosages of radiation. This ionizing radiation prevents the division of living cells, such as bacteria, and cells of higher organ-

Everything in our environment, including food, contains traces of radiation. commonly called "back-ground radiation". When foodstuffs are irradiated, no residue of radiation is detected and it does not turn the product radioactive. In comparison to the level of radioactivity naturally present in food, the dosage amount is 200,000 times smaller. Panels of doctors, health officials and governmental agencies have concluded after years of research that food irradiation is perfectly harmless and causes no health hazard to the consumer. In a definitive statement, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued the fol-

"Because no evidence has been submitted to contradict FDA's finding that irradiation of food does not cause the food to become radioactive, no further discussion of this issue is In 1980 the FAO, the

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and the WHO stated:

"The irradiation of any food commodity up to an overall average dose of 10KGy presents no toxicological hazard; hence toxicological testing of foods so treated is no longer required.

Currently, over 37 countries, including some Arab states, are utilising this process and each year new governments are approving it.

This process is extensively used to prolong the shelf life of food. Perishable food shelf life is extended by the termination of microorganisms that cause spoilage or product deterioration. De-

pending on the amount of dosage the products are exposed to, meat, poultry, fish and many other perishable foods may be stored safely for long periods, with or without refrigeration.

Exposure of fruits and vegetables to low dose radiation, slows down the ripening, again extending the shelf life of the product. For example, this procedure increases the shelf life of mangoes for one week and bananas for two weeks. In addition, this procedure results in the synchronisation of the ripening process. Low dose radiation also inhibits sprouting of potatoes, yams, onions, and garlic. Spoilage caused by sprouting or germination is thus terminated and the food can be stored for longer periods of time throughout

the season. Food irradiation is also used for sterilising food-stuffs. In Jordan, 394 cases of food poisoning have been reported in 1993. This statistic represents only 1-5 per cent of the actual cases, most of which go unreported. Food borne diseases, food infection and intoxication are of major concern to the food industry. Salmonella outbreaks, Botulism, mold diseases, viruses and parasites are all examples that lead to vanous illnesses. Treating food with irradiation has shown a significant decrease in our exposure to food borne pathogens and

microbial contamination. Other functions of food irradiation range from disinfecting insects in wheat and wheat powder to extending shelf life of potatoes. In addition, it also serves to decontaminate spices and dry vegetable seasoning, control parasites in non-processed meat cuts, and control of illness-causing microorganisms in poul-

try and meat. Some other processes can achieve a preservation effect, but the quality of flavour, texture and colour declines. To name one example, in the canning process, to sterilise and preserve the product, the cans are exposed to high temperatures which reduces the texture and flavour components. On the other hand. irradiation produces a shelfstable product, much closer to the fresh state in flavour. texture and colour. This can be attributed to the minimal temperature rise associated with this process.

As preservation con-

tinues to be a necessity for food storage and distribution, new technologies are constantly being sought in the food industry. Ironically food irradiation was introduced immediately following the discovery of radioactivity in 1895, and has been studied more than any other food process. As mentioned above, extensive experiments have proven beyond any doubt that this method is not harmful, but on the contrary, beneficial to the consumer. Governmental interest in this process is increasingly emerging due to the wide array of benefits this technology has to offer. This interest, if not already established, should become a main concern for governments whose economies are still largely based on food and agriculture. Given the relatively low cost of building a food irradiation plant, compared with the cost of the already existing food technologies in Jordan, the government should seriously consider adopting this state-of the-art inexpensive vet invaluable technology.

The writer is a Masters student at the Food, Science and Technology Department at Chapman University. He contributed this artide to the Jordan Times. The article has been made possible with the guidance of Dr. Fred Caporasso and Dr. Walter Clark at Chapman University.

# U.N. poverty summit sets ambitious goals

By Evelyn Leopold

UNITED NATIONS — The United Nations World Social Summit, planned for Copenhagen in March, has devised unimaginably ambitious goals - the eradication of poverty, the creation of jobs, the well-being of peoples.

The summit, scheduled from March 6 to 12, has been plagued since its inception by the magnitude of the subject matter that tends to overwhelm the participants from 185 coun-"It's the sea of sands,"

said Timothy Wirth, the U.S. undersecretary of state for global afffairs.
"You grab hold of it and it falls between your fingers." Nevertheless, the response is overwhelming. More than 90 heads of state or government have promised to attend, among them Russian President Boris Yeltsin, French President Francois Mitterrand and South African President Nelson Mandela.

And more than 2,000 non-governmental groups have been accredited for participation in the conference, which is costing the United Nations close to \$3 million and Denmark \$30 million for the more than 15,000 visitors.

The summit is the brainchild of Chile's U.N. Ambassador, Juan Somavia, who calls it a "battle for the soul of the United Na-

At the minimum, he believes the conference will galvanise governments and the private sector to focus on intractable social and economic issues that are devastating parts of the Third World, Eastern Europe and some urban areas in the West.

Secretary General Boutros Ghali, annoyed by media concentration on U.N. peacekeeping, is de-termined to put social problems and development in the forefront of the 50th anniversary events at the United Nations this year.

He has made development his top priority saying it is the most sensible remedy for the world's growing political disorder and social disintegration.

The statistics are grue-some, according to U.N. literature: Over a billion people live in poverty, with-out jobs or basic necessities. About 700 million people are underemployed. working long hours in jobs that don't cover basic needs. Among the world's poorest, 70 per cent are . women.

Many of the issues have been addressed in greater detail in U.N. conferences on children, population, the environment, human rights and debt. But the overlap with the social summit is a deliberate attempt to integrate the various programmes for poverty eradica-

Among the proposals is one from U.N. agencies dealing with development, children and population which wants nations to

This obligates rich naof their gross national prohealth and education, particularly for girls and women.

approve a so-called "20-20"

tions to devote 0.7 per cent duct for foreign aid and make sure 20 per cent of that goes for defined prog-rammes — such as basic

# It is hard to forget

By Pascal B. Karmy

NEWS REPORTS recently quoted Israel Deputy De-fence Minister Mordechai Gur as saying that "the Jordanian people would like to see the concrete results of the peace and (Prime Minister Yitzhak) direction. It is, unfortunately, undeniable that there is hostility towards Israel among the Jordanian peo-

Mr. Gur's assessment of

this hostility is quite correct but as a military man who participated in many military operations against the Palestinians and the Arabs, he should be quite aware of the reasons for this hostility. He is no doubt aware of the brutal treatment of the Palestinians by Israel in the occupied territories. Does he not realise that Jordanians and Palestinians are like brothers. They have the same language, culture and religion and they constitute almost the same families by intermarriage. They have lived together in amity for decades on the same territory from 1948 to 1967 and previously for hundreds of years before their territory was divided into two: one Palestinian and the other East Jordan by the Sykes-Picot agreement of 1916 and subsequently by the mandatory powers, Britain and France, after World War I. How can the Jordanians

keep quiet or not 'sympathise with the Palestinians when they read and hear and watch the television about Israel's treatment of their brothers the Palestinians and it is natural that this treatment breeds hostility towards Israel. Let us, however, in this connection consider whether Israel, after the conclusion of the Oslo and Cairo agreements and of

the Jordan-Israel peace treaty, has changed its conduct towards the Palestinians in the occupied territories. In effect the events which occurred after the conclusion of those agreements do not inspire confidence in the intentions of Israel or in keeping up the momentum of the peace Process

Israel directly or indirectly, through its undercover agents, or by its fanatic Jewish settlers, is still killing Palestinians, burning their trees and crops, destroying villages and detaining thousands of Palesti-

nians without trial. How can the Jordanians and the Palestinians forget the present and past excruciating treatment at the hands of Israel.

Have the Jews forgotten their torture by the Nazis. They have built a huge monument in Jerusalem to caust and, as I understand. the Jews are building another one in New York so as not to forget or for-

After the liberation of their territory, Palestinians also deserve to erect a monument to commemorate their expulsion from their homeland, their killing in Palestine and outside it since the Deir Yassin. massacre on April 9, 1948 and thereafter.

With reference to Deir Yassin massacre, once a debate took place about it between the Israeli ambassador to Canada and the famous British historian Arnold Toynbe in the 1940s. The historian Toynbe compared the slaughter, in cold blood, of the unarmed, undefended and peaceful civilians of Deir Yassin to the killing of the Jews in Germany during the World War II. The Israeli ambassador was surprised and even angered at this comparison as he claimed that there was a huge difference between the two massacres. But Mr. Toynbe retorted, indeed there was a difference in

quantity but not in quality.

After all those painful events (to use a mild word), which left deep wounds in the hearts and bodies of the Palestimans, it is not surprising for Mr. Gur to recognise the undeniable hostility to Israel among the Jordanian people, Just as the Jews did not forget of forgive the Nazis for their massacre, neither the Palestinians nor the Jordanians would be able-toforget or forgive what the Palestinians have suffered at the hands of Israel for decades. And now what does

Israel want from the Palestinians? In effect. Israel wants the following: It wants peace but it wishes to retain the Jewish settlements and to expand them; it wants peace and security but at the expense of Arab territory; and wants peace but it insists on retaining Jerusalem for Jerusalem for Jerusalem in defiance of the Arabs and Muslims.

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One of the many ancient

By Rami G. Khouri Special to the Jordan Times

Pella

MOST ANTIQUITIES enthusiasts in Jordan have probably been to the imporant ancient city of Pella, in the northern Jordan Valley. and some may have even wandered beyond the Pelia city site to explore the adjacent Wadi Himmeh water source or the hilltop Hellenistic fortress or Jabai Sar-

Pam Watson, however, had a slightly different notion about how to view the region immediately around Pela. By following her insincts, she and a team of archaeologist-surveyors have uncovered significant new information about the Pella region. In the process, they may have lent important new credence to ardiaeological surveying research methods that are becoming increasingly vital in new of the urgent need to save ancient sites from desmution in the face of brisk mbanisation and develop-

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mond settled villages in the Neolithic Period. She always wondered. though, about ancient human use of the abundant natural resources in the surfounding areas. Those

# Israeli legisla

(Continued from page 1)

Underlining that Jordan's breign debts represented 150 Per cent of its gross domestic located was impeding the kingdom's ability to shoulder is "functional role," the Cown Prince also noted that the World Bank had stressed the "need for a cooperative strategy among Jordan's main creditors to provide debt reduction and enhanced

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The Crown Prince expressed hope that the visit of the members of Knesset to Jordan second of Knesset to Jordan dan would help them "to an inderstanding not only of the constitutional and procedural workings of the local procedural workings of the local procedural local workings of the Jordanian parliamentary system, but also of the political, social and economic factors which determine the ways in which

the system works."

"This exchange of information, and the beginning of what we would hope will be an increasing contact bean increasing contact be-tween the two parliametary institutions which are the

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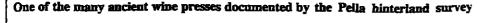
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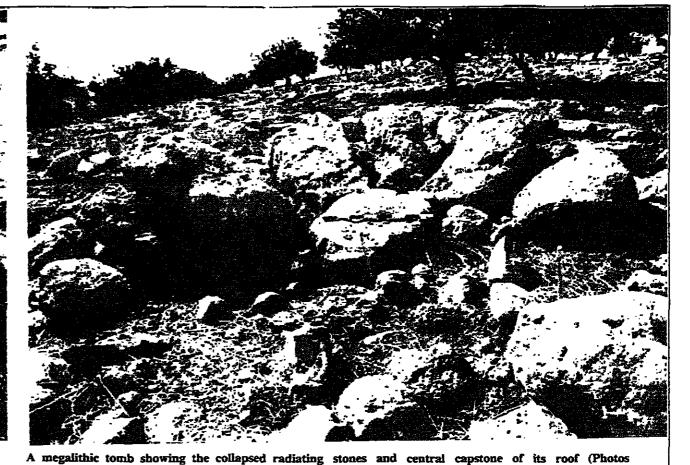
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courtesy of Pam Watson)

# Pella Hinterland Survey reveals wealth of new information were not necessary.

By Rami G. Khouri Special to the Jordan Times

MOST ANTIQUITIES enthusiasts in Jordan have probably been to the important ancient city of Pella, in the northern Jordan Valley, and some may have even wandered beyond the Pella city site to explore the adjacent Wadi Himmeh water source or the hilltop Hellenistic fortress or Jabal Sar-Pam Watson, however,

had a slightly different notion about how to view the egion immediately around Pella. By following her instincts, she and a team of archaeologist-surveyors have uncovered significant new information about the Pella region. In the process, they may have lent important new credence to archaeological surveying research methods that are becoming increasingly vital in view of the urgent need to save ancient sites from destruction in the face of brisk urbanisation and developnent in the country.

Dr. Watson, the assistant director of the British Institute at Amman for Archaeology and History, worked for many years as a member of the Australian team that excavated Pella in the late 1970s and 1980s, revealing a large urban centre that has been almost uninterruptedly inhabited during the past eight thousand years - or ever since the birth of yearound settled villages in the Neolithic Period.

She always wondered, though, about ancient human use of the abundant natural resources in the surrounding areas. Those including gently rolling and well-watered hills to the north and south of Pella. forested mountains to the east, and the fertile flatlands of the Jordan Valley to the west. In late 1994, she and her

colleagues also found out exactly how rich the area is in ancient remains. Dr. Watson and co-director Margaret o'Hea of the University of Adelaide in Australia head a three-year field project entitled the Petra Hinterland Survey, which will systematically explore the entire immediate vicinity around Pella, covering a total area of 36 square kilometres. In six weeks of surveying last year, they covered the northeast quadrant of their survey area, comprising one-third of the entire area they plan to examine. In these 12 square

total of 192 sites, some of which had more than one structure or other ancient features on them; the total number of individual structures or features recorded was 257. These included a wide array of ancient remains, from complete fortresses, villages, farmsteads and towers, to quarries, wine presses, baths, cemeteries, cisterns and towers -- along with less dramatic remains such as wall sections, agricultural terrace walls, scatters of ceramics and chipped stone tools, and carved niches and gaming boards.

kilometres, they recorded a

The large number of previously undocumented sites within such a small area raises important questions about whether the hinterlands of other ancient townsites - of which there are well over one hundred in Jordan — are similarly rich in unknown sites. If so, many sites could be threatened with destruction if they fall within fast expanding urban regions of the country.

Other than the sheer number of new sites it documented, the survey also shed new light on several other facets of Jordan's ancient history and land use. It revealed, for example, the presence of a major wine-growing industry in ancient times, especially in the Roman-Byzantine period. Twentytwo different wine presses were documented, along with four farmsteads comprising residential buildings, field walls, agricultural terraces, cisterns and, in two cases, wine presses (one of which was indoors in a room with a mosaic floor). There is no sign of a grape, raisin or wine industry in the area today.

One region about three kilometres northeast of Pella is known today as Hod Ed Daliya and Wadi Ed Daliya (basin and valley of vines), perhaps retaining the region's ancient role as an important wine-growing area. (This is not so unusual, given the known history of Jordan. Many Byzantine mosaics throughout the country depict scenes of rural grape and wine industries, the Salt region was famous for its wine and raisins until the vines were wiped out by disease in the early decades of this century, and several other ancient sites, such as Khan Ez Zabib (Raisin Caravanserai) south of Amman, are

The survey project is funded by the British Institute at Amman for Archaelogy and History (in turn funded by the British Academy), and the Australian Research Council. The sponsoring institutions are the British Institute at Amman and the University of Adelaide.

The 1994 survey season's most important discoveries perhaps related to unusual burial systems tenatively dated to the Bronze Age (around 3300-2000 B.C.). The survey team documented a line of megalithic tombs fields running approximately in a northsouth direction, roughly in line with a dolmen field further north. The megalithic tombs are of a kind that does not seem

to have been documented before in this region. Most of them are circular in shape, with inner and outer wall lines, and some at least had stone roofs made of massive radiating corbelled beams and a round central capstone. The smallest are 2.5 metres in diametre and the largest are a massive 10 metres in diametre. Though not excavated, they are tentatively identified as tombs on the basis of general architectural parallels with other known tombs, and on the basis of visible inner (presumably tomb) chambers in some of them.

The dolmen field to the north was also never previously documented, though it falls just beyond the survey area and thus was not fully surveyed. The tombs and dolmens are thought to date from the Chalcolithic and Bronze ages (approximately 4000-

1500 B.C.), based on the findings from excavated dolmens in other parts of Jordan.

The survey provided in-triguing new information on defensive/military fortification systems from the late Hellenistic/early Roman era, around the 1st century B.C. The two already known fortresses of Jabal Sartaba and Tell El Hussein have now been joined by three smaller "fortlets" discovered by the surveyors. Two of the fortlets, along with Tell El Hussein, are located along an east-west line to the east of Pella that overlooks a major communications route between the valley and the high-Other identified walls

and towers east of Pella

seem to form part of a regional fortification system associated with the Tell Abu El Khas site and the Jabal Sartaba fortress. This system appear to have been designed to control the high ground immediately east of Pella. In the late Hellenistic and early Roman periods, the Pella region and much of the rest of central Jordan was constantly contested by the Ptolemies and the Seleucids (the Middle Eastern heirs of Alexander the Great's conquests). Given the fact that some of the forts and fortlets appear to be unfinished, one hypothesis that must be further examined, Dr. Watson suggests, is that these fortifications may have been started by the Ptolemies but then fell into Selecuid hands; subsequently, they were never completed, because the region was relatively stable by the early Roman era and such security works

The importance of surveys like this was also

heightened by the findings at the Wadi Himmeh, almost two kilometres north of Pella. There, next to the hot mineral water spring, the surveyors identified the remains of a handsome Roman bath house but unfortunately, it had been almost totally destroyed by local buildozing activity. A newly discovered major Byzantine complex in the vicinity was also heavily damaged, and needs to be protected. Another complex similarly associated with a major spring in a different part of the survey area has also been largely destroyed. Such findings suggest that if surveys of this kind could be carried out in the vicinity of all major ancient townsites, we could probably identify and protect scores, if not hundreds, of significant antiquities that are now undocumented and, in many cases, probably threatened with destruc-

From the earliest days of human activity on Earth, the surveys identified at least 18 sites with the remains of scattered stone chipped tools; an initial, cursory field assessment suggests they date mainly from the Paleolithic-Epipaleolithic periods (dating back from between 12.000 to 50,000 ??? years ago). Most of the stone tools sites are located in areas of limestone conglomerate that also contains many flint and chert nodules. The survey team identi-

fied four stratified tells containing the remains of

several successive ancient settlements from different periods, located several kilometres way from Pella. They all have remains from the Roman-Byzantine period, when Pella probably reached its greatest size, though some have pre-dominantly Bronze-to-Iron Age evidence, and one tell contains mainly medieval remains. Deir El Asal vil-lage, several kilometres east of Pella, has significant remains from the medieval period - a time when the main site at Pella appears to have supported only a small community.

It is possible that due to natural causes (earthquakes, water supply problems, land salinity) or other reasons the site of Pella was largely abandoned by the medieval period, and the main urban centre in the region shifted several kilometres to the east. It is already known from excavations that in the Abbassid period, starting in the mid-8th century, the main mound at Pella was almost totally abandoned in favour of a new townsite in a small adjacent valley to the

The survey confirms that

the entire region around Pella had been intensively used in the Roman-Byzantine periods in a peaceful and stable regional context, with a great deal of agricultural activity and little need for the largescale defensive fortification systems that were more common during the late Hellenistic-early Roman periods. Because the Roman-Byzantine period exploitation of the region was so intensive, it probably obscures some of the earlier uses of the land: the survey clearly confirms that the area had been used for many different purposes, throughout virtually the full span of recorded human

Only excavations can reveal the full ancient history of the region and its many newly identified sites. The extensive remains of at least 47 agricultural terrace and field walls, for example, are impossible to date without excavations or only on the basis of architectural parallels, as can often be done with structures such as grape presses, fortresses or burial cairns. The same pertains to the 19 ancient stone quarries that were documented.

Later this year, the survey team will work in the area immediately southeast of Pella, and expects its findings to be rather similar to last year's discoveries, given the similar nature of the landscape. The large amount of new information gleaned from the survey's first season has already allowed us to better place the large Roman-Byzantine city of Pella within its regional context, including revealing new information about grape-based agroindustries that were not well attested before. The project team in 1994

along with the co-directors, included Eddie Moth. Robyn Stocks, Chantelle Hoppe. Samantha Gibbins, Rupert Van Der Werff, Kathryn Ripley, and Jordanian Department of Antiquities representatives Hikmat Ta'ani and Ismael Melhem.

# Israeli legislators visit

(Continued from page 1)

Underlining that Jordan's foreign debts represented 150 per cent of its gross domestic product was impeding the Kingdom's ability to shoulder "functional role," the Crown Prince also noted that the World Bank had stressed the "need for a cooperative strategy among Jordan's main creditors to provide debt reduction and enhanced

"Decisive and timely action by the world community is strongly recommended by the World Bank," said the Crown Prince.

The Crown Prince express ed hope that the visit of the nembers of Knesset to Jordan would help them "to an understanding not only of the constitutional and procedural workings of the Jordanian parliamentary system, but also of the political, social and economic factors which determine the ways in which the system works."

"This exchange of information, and the beginning of what we would hope will be an increasing contact between the two parliametary institutions which are the

core of the democratic system in both our countries, is an important first step in the direction of what I hope you will agree should be our common aim: to lay the foundation of a genuine peace be-tween our peoples," he said.

In a reply speech, Speaker Weiss thanked the King and the Crown Prince for the invitation to the Knesset members to visit Jordan and said the ideas expressed by the Crown Prince in his speech were realistic in view of the actual situation on the

Noting that the legislators' visit came after the Knesset ratified the peace treaty with Jordan with an absolute majority this week, Mr. Weiss said: "We overcame a lot of obstacles.

'As Knesset members we have influence on the decision-makers in Israel since we represent the Jewish, Arab and Druze (political powers)," he said. Mr. Weiss expressed

admiration of King Hussein's courage and efforts to bridge the gaps between the peoples of the two countries. The delegation left Am-

man late Sunday.

**Jordan Times** 

### Israel keeps siege

(Continued from page 1) (\$330 million) annually as compensation for lost income. The idea was not brought to a vote. Despite the continued clo-

sure, Israeli officials on Sun-

associated with grape-based

day praised the Palestinians' thwarting of a planned attack over the weekend as sign of stepped-up PLO efforts. We mark with great satisfaction the latest steps taken

by the Palestinian Authority. They... will certainly have a positive effect on the continuation of the negotiations," said Mr. Sarid. "But we are still awaiting further steps," he added.

Acting on a tip from their Israeli counterparts, Palestinian agents on Saturday captured three militants who planned to explode a carbomb either in Israel or at the King Hussein Bridge between the West Bank and Jordan, an Israeli security source said.

The Israeli daily Haaretz reported Palestinian troops foiled four planned largescale attacks against Israelis in the past two weeks. In one case, PLO police confiscated weapons from Palestinians stopped at a roadblock, the report said.

In another, PLO forces stopped a 15-year-old boy planning to blow himself up near the Jewish settlement of Dugit in the Gaza Strip, said a Palestinian security official. speaking on condition of anonymity.

Israeli Police Minister Moshe Shahal confirmed he had reports of Palestinian police preventing planned attacks, but added that Israel was still not satisfied with the measures.

Economics Minister Shimon Shetreet noted that no suspects have been extradited from the self-rule areas to Israel and that Mr. Arafat has not disarmed hardline

groups.
"The Palestinians' action is very far from what we want. Mr. Shetreet said.

A PLO official said Sunday Palestinian police in selfruled Gaza have freed two Islamic Jihad leaders detained after last month's bombing.

The police also arrested four other militants of the

Israel has demanded that Palestinian police crack down on militants as a condition for progress in implementing a long-delayed army troop pullout from West Bank towns under the 1993 Israeli-PLO peace deal.

The PLO security official said police had so far detained 15 members of Islamic Jihad, two of whose men carried out the suicide bombing in Israel on Jan. 22. The bombers were from Gaza.

Israeli Police Minister Moshe Shahal told Israel Radio that despite recent reports of guerrilla attacks foiled by the PLO-led police we are still unhappy with their lack of determination" in hunting down and jailing guerrillas.

Islamic Jihad sources said two activists, Jamil Mutaweh and Abdullah Al Sabeh, were detained on Saturday, and two more, Nidal Rahim and Taiser Aziz, on Sunday. PLO sources said the detained men were on a list of

fugitives, and more wanted men were still in hiding. The official said the freed men were Omar Fourah and Abdullah Al Zaqq. They were cleared of direct involvement in the bombing,

Among those still in custody is Islamic Jihad spokesman Abdullah Al Shami. Last month's suicide bombing, the latest in a series that has killed scores of Israelis, further strained slow-moving talks on extend-

ing self-rule to all of the West

Heading into a critical meeting with Middle East foreign ministers next weekend, the Clinton administration is rejecting an Egyptian demand that Israel set a deadline for withdrawing its troops from the West

Instead, Secretary of State Warren Christopher intends to concentrate on new security safeguards for Israelis, a senior U.S. official said. Unlike past meetings, this

one will branch out into relatively unfamiliar areas, such as coordinating the impact of Israel's peace agreements with Jordan and the PLO on their economies. The Washington conference, which was scheduled at last week's summit in Cairo, will also try to restart stalled negotiations between Israel and Syria.

The Cairo summit, which covered a wide range of

issues, essentially sought to put Israeli-PLO negotiations back on track. Israel, Jordan, Egypt and

the PLO are sending their foreign ministers to Washington, but Syria and Lebanon are not. They also did not participate in the Cairo summit. Syrian Ambassador Walid

Al Moualiam is expected to return shortly to Washington from an extended vacation. and State Department officials say they will urge him to resume negotiations with Israel's ambassador, Itamar Rabinovich. More promising for Amer-

ican and Middle East peacemakers is the prospect of spurring Israel's negotiations with the PLO However, Israel cannot be

expected to accelerate its withdrawal of troops from the area until it is confident the PLO can improve security conditions, said the senior U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity. The State Department

shares Israel's view that Mr. Arafat can do better. But the U.S. official credited the PLO leader with making more of an effort in recent days. In fact, he said, the PLO preempted two planned attacks on Israelis.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa last week blamed Israel for the increase in violence and said Israel should set a deadline for withdrawing its troops. You can't set a deadline

for an Israeli withdrawal," the U.S. official said. "You need to restore confidence, and that's one of the things the ministers will be working

# Israel, Jordan advance

(Continued from page 1) the altitude. While Jordan sought "free ascent and descent rights" without any restrictions, Israel originally wanted a ceiling of 11,000 In subsequent negotia-

tions, Israel, which says that flights over 11,000 feet would interfere with its military training flights, agreed not to impose the ceiling restrictions at certain times during some days of the week. But Jordan was seeking fullyfree overflight rights. "We hope that we will be

able to conclude an agreement soon," Mr. Dahabi told Petra. Low-level flights through

Israeli airspace on its European flights would automatically eliminate the fuel saving and Israel.

the airline would have by flying across Israel to get to the Mediterranean. Hence, RI stands to gain little by agreeing to the Israeli condi tions, aviation experts say. The RJ-El Al commercial

agreement on tourists, which in essence also hinges on the broader accord being negotiated on civil aviation, provides for tourists from the U.S. to be flown to Amman or Aqaba (in the case of RJ) and to Tel Aviv or any other Israeli airport (in the case of El Al) and fly them out in the reverse order.

The essence of the agreement is that if RJ brings in a group of tourists to Amman/ Aqaba, El Al will fly them out from Israel after they spend equal time in Jordan

### Arab League head to visit Jordan

(Continued from page 1)

Amr Musa and Palestinian Minister for International Cooperation Nabil Shaath and Farouk Kaddoumi, the Palestinian Liberation Organisation's (PLO) political affairs (foreign affairs) chief.

Dr. Shaath said an estimated one million people would be concerned by a return of displaced persons from the 1967 conflict. At the time, 350,000 people fled to Jordan, 100,000 to Egypt and several thousand more settled in Syria and Lebanon, he

According to the declaration of principles signed by Israel and the PLO in September 1993, the four parties are to decide on terms for the return of Palestinians displaced in 1967 from the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

The fate of Palestinians who fled their homeland during the first Arab-Israeli conflict in 1948 is due to be discussed by May 1996 at the

Mr. Musa read a statement saying: "These meetings affirmed the importance of this subject (letting refugees back), which is linked to the right to return and to the fact that the Palestinian people have a right to feel a tangible benefit from the peace pro-

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# Unemployment could destabilise | Clinton claims credit for 6m new jobs Arab Gulf states — economist

ment will cause unrest in Arab Gulf states if millions of new jobs are not created in the next 15 years and reliance on foreign workers is not reduced, a Kuwaiti economist said in remarks published

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Dependence on expatriate manpower, a shortage of local skills and reluctance to do menial work will make it very difficult to create sufficien jobs, economist Jassem Al Saadoun said in a speech quoted by the Englishlanguage Arab Times.

Mr. Saadoun made his comments in a recent speech to a conference in Dubai on economic development in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Qatar and Kuwait, the newspaper

On current trends, the

CAIRO (AFP) - The PLO

will ask for direct trade links

with the United States during

talks in Egypt this week

aimed at boosting the econo-

mies of the Middle East.

senior Palestinian official Na-

The meeting will discuss

the possibility of reaching a

free-trade agreement with

the United States and de-

veloping trade among Israel, the PLO, Jordan and Egypt,"

"Until now we must go

through Israel to export to

the United States and we

want to lift barriers blocking

our trade with Egypt. Jordan

and the United States," said

the self-rule authority's

minister of international

Exports like farm pro-

PARIS (R) - Prime Minis-

ter Edouard Balladur.

favourite to win the French

presidency, has set a target of

cutting the budget deficit

without tax hikes and por-

trayed himself as the candi-

In his first televised inter-

view since declaring his can-

date of painless reform.

mpor didacy last month, Mr. Balla-

caliate dur hit out at rivals prescrib-

U.S. ing radical economic and so-

The cial change, saying: "The

ess it. French people do not want to

Uniter experimented on like Guinea

per ce pigs."
es of Credited by opinion colls

ing e with a big lead over all other

rods: candidates in the April-May U.S election, Mr. Balladur said

Micke the French wanted to turn the

dion r page after economic crises

and 14 years under Socialist

President Francois Mitter-

will allow us to make more

"Growth has returned... it

cooperation.

Mr. Shaath told AFP.

bil Shaath said Sunday.

to 39.4 million by 2010 from 25 million at the end of 1995. Those under 19, on the verge of joining the job markets, would rise to 21 million from 13.2 million, he said.

"This would mean an increase of eight million people in the labour market," he

"Planners and decision makers must then attempt to create enough jobs for the newcomers or face the alternative - severe unemployment with possibilities of social and political extremism. All available signs point to the latter happening," he

Expatriate manpower formed 90 per cent of the workforce in the United Arab Emirates, 83 per cent in Qatar, 82 per cent in Kuwait, 69 per cent in Saudi Arabia and 60 per cent in Bahrain, Mr. Saadoun said, adding

olive oil are negotiated by

Israeli firms, while imports to

the self-rule Gaza Strip and

the West Bank town of

Jericho are still subject to

talks begin Tuesday in the Red Sea resort of Taba be-

tween the United States and

Egypt, which will be ioined

Wednesday by Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian Au-

thority.
U.S. Commerce Secretary

Ron Brown, who stopped

Sunday in Cairo on his way to

Tel Aviv before returning to

Egypt for the talks, said the

meeting was an important

new step toward peace. according to Egypt's Middle

to take part in the plan for

changes and reforms without

imposing more suffering on

the French people who have

already suffered so much,"

he said, pushing a message of

criticised as uninspiring and

aloof, said he did not aim to

raise taxes as president but

that reducing France's budget

and welfare deficits would

take priority over tax cuts.

Cutlining his tax plans, Mr. Balladur said: "Given the

current state of the nation's

and the welfare system's

accounts, a massive cut is not

possible without new taxes on

create new taxes. I think on

the contrary we must wait for

the recovery to create jobs...

We will only be able to

seriously consider cutting

when we have lowered the

deficit," he poined out.

"Since I do not want to

the other side."

Mr. Balladur, 65 and often

optimism and unity.

Mr. Shaath said "we want

East News Agency.

ducts, textiles, flowers and regional economic coopera-

Balladur aims for deficit

cuts without tax hikes

Unprecedented economic

Israeli taxes.

Oman was believed to have cialised work nationals are similar figures.

ask for free trade

He said GCC states should impose restrictions on immigration since the severe imbalance between expatriate and national workforce posed a very serious threat to national security.

"In times of prosperity there is enough for all. But in times of economic difficulty, divisions surface because available resources may not be sufficient," he said. "If this phenomenon is not

handled properly without, seeking the assistance of security agencies, the possibility of violent clashes could become inevitable," he added.

The GCC states have for years guaranteed full employment for their nationals by using large oil revenues to create government jobs for them. They employ foreigners to do menial or spe-

tion and encourage joint in-

vestments in the autonomous

areas, because we can no

longer count on international

economic development

through investments," he

According to Israeli statis-tics, the Palestinians ex-

ported \$270 million worth of

products from the Gaza Strip

and West Bank last year,

They imported \$1.1 billion

Under economic accords

worth of products, including

signed in Paris in 1994, Israel

must hand over to the Palesti-

nian Authority the right to

tax imports entering the Gaza

TORONTO (R) — The

world's seven leading indust-

rial powers put aside differ-

ences and unanimously gave

their blessing Saturday to a U.S.-led \$50 billion rescue

After two days of talks,

finance ministers and central

bankers from the United

States, Japan, Germany.

France, Britain, Italy and

Canada expressed "total

satisfaction" with efforts to

"The support is unequivoc-

al for the American pack-

age." said Canadian Finance

Minister Paul Martin, who

chaired the meeting of the

so-called Group of Seven (G-7) nations at a Toronto hotel.

Leading up to the two-day

meeting, the United States

and its European allies were

at odds over the handling of a

\$50 billion bailout U.S. Presi-

dent Bill Clinton had cobbled

together at the last minute for

package for Mexico.

aid Mexico.

But this system has yet to

\$1 billion from Israel.

Strip and Jericho.

including \$180 million worth

to Israel.

"We want to ensure our

agreement with U

lidi said.

Mr. Saadoun, an adviser to Kuwait's oppositiondominated parliament, said in most GCC states unemployment had started appearing among university graduates because they were poorly educated, had unwanted skills or made excessive wage

unwilling or unqualified to

demands. "People think that because of the large number of expatriates it will not be difficult to replace them with national manpower. The reality is otherwise." he pointed out.

"Most expatriates are working in unskilled and lowly paid jobs that are unattractive to nationals. Other expatriates are doing highly skilled jobs that nationals are not qualified to do, thus making replacement very diffi-

take effect in the absence of

Palestinian ports.
According to PLO official

Maidi Al Khalidi, the talks in

Taba will discusss laying eco-

nomic foundations like roads,

electric and gas networks,

and Palestinian-Israeli in-

Funding for the projects

has yet to be decided but is

expected to be covered by

bilateral or multilateral

loans, according to Mr. Kha-

lidi, who serves in the self-

Self-rule has been put in

Mr. Khalidi said the meet-

ing would also approve the

creation of regional trade

regulations, investment laws

and training programme as a

As part of the deal, Mr.

Clinton said that the U.S.

the U.S. had not properly

The G-7 tried Saturday to

brush aside the rift, with Mr.

Martin emphasising that sup-

had been unanimous.

consulted them.

first step in cooperation.

jeopardy by poverty and Isla-

mic militant violence.

rule authority's "ministry"

dustrial zones.

of planning.

ployment rate has dropped

more than 20 per cent," he

Adding to the good news, he said, is the fact that 1994

was the best year for econo-

mic growth in 10 years in the

United States, and the com-

bined rates of unemployment

and inflation are the lowest

Mr. Clinton did not men-

tion the government statistic

released Friday that said the

U.S. unemployment rate

jumped to 5.7 per cent in

January, up from 5.4 per cent

in December, and the num-

ber of new jobs created fell to

advisers have given a cau-

tious interpretatin of the

latest jobless report. Laura

Tyson, chair of the presi-

dent's Council of Economic

Advisers, said Friday it

"might suggest some modera-

tion in the growth of employ-

a lack of local Palestinian

institutions and of coordina-

tion among the donor coun-

tries, the World Bank and the

Out of some \$800 million

pledged, only \$228 million

came through and were most-

ly spent on the Palestinian

self-rule authority's recurrent

the project department of the

Palestinian Economic Coun-

cil for Development and Re-

construction (PECDAR), said some \$600 million have

The money will mostly be

funnelled toward education.

health and rehabilitation of

the badly damaged infras-

Palestinian authority's inter-

PECDAR channels the

been pledged for 1995.

tructure, he said.

national funds.

Samir Abdallah, head of

expenses such as salaries.

United Nations.

White House economic

its lowest in a year.

they've been in 25 years.'

Although the U.S. unemployment rate is up slightly, President Bill Clinton chose to accentuate the positive inhis Saturday radio address, claiming credit for nearly six million jobs created in his two years in office.

Mr. Clinton also promoted anew his proposal for a 90cent increase in the \$4.25per-hour minimum wage spread over two years and pointed out that members of Congress make more in one month than people making the minimum wage earn all year, which is about \$9,000.

"Nobody can live on \$4.25 an hour, and yet, 2.5 million Americans are working for just that amount, and many of them have children to

feed," he said. Mr. Clinton and his advisers feel the president has not been given the traditional credit due the chief executive for an improving economy, which has been the best news going for a troubled adminis-

"We still need a proper

customs areas for trade with

Egypt and Jordan," Mr. Kha-

He had no figures for the

export of Palestinian goods since the start of autonomy,

but said the Israeli income

from the export of West

Bank and Gaza products in

A lack of clear investment

laws hass so far kept

businessmen away from the

Palestinian autonomous

areas of Gaza and Jericho.

stressed the importance of

the Palestinian private sector

as international assistance.

set at \$2.4 billion over five

vers, would eventually run

Donors met recently in

Gaza to improve the flow of

funds, hampered in 1994 by

International experts have

1993 was \$350 million.

ment" but that "it's very hard "Since I took office two to ascertain a trend from one years ago, nearly six million month." new jobs have come into our economy (and) the unem-

Analysts interpreted the news as a signal that the economy, which grew at a rapid 4.5 per cent clip in the final quarter of 1994, may be losing steam after the Federal Reserve raised interest rates seven times in the past year. Mr. Clinton said he was

proud of his economic record but that he was aware that "far too many Americans" have not benefitted from the recovery and that his "middle class bill of rights" would provide education tax breaks

to help people get ahead. Another way to help would be an increase in the minimum wage employers are required to pay their workers. Mr. Clinton's proposal, unveiled Friday, would raise it topping out at \$5.15 an hour.

Republicans in control of Congress promised to look at the plan but generally were sceptical, saying an increase would force employers to cut their workforces. They had joined with Democrats in 1989 to approve an identical 90-cent, two-year rise in the

minimum wage. Mr. Clinton said he believes an increase is related to the overall goal of both Republicans and Democrats this year of reforming the U.S. welfare system because it would reward people for their labour.

"If we're really serious about welfare reform, increasing the minimum wage will plainly help," he said.

# Israeli cabinet cancels

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) —

The tax on stock market Hollander.

Politically, the flip-flops have eroded Prime Minister terrorism.

for worsening a collapse of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, which lost about 40 per cent of its value in the past year. Since reports last week that the tax would be per cent. On Sunday, however, the Mishtanim index fell 3.6 per

radio.

for Bank Leumi, attributed the sluggish market to the inflation rate, which, given the stability of the Israeli shekel against the dollar, has cut into exporters' profits.

stock tax six months ago, arguing it would help fight inflation. Later, he backed away from that argument and implied he was misled by economists.

### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY FEBRUARY 6, 1995

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Your greatest benefits can come now

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) The measure of your success in the New Year is measured by the intelligence with which you handle others and everyone you meet in the outside world.

is about to begin for you and now is the time to make the most of any enterprise that you are currently working on.

yours on this day and it would be wise to write them down for use in the future. Follow your intuition. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) If you want to gain greater success

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Express the Virgo motto " serve," whenever possible now since you can gain much in the future by being kind, altruistic and caring to those around you.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You have been much tested in the past as to parience and goodness, but now things begin to happen for you. Do not hesitate to accept invitations and to prepare for a successful and happy future.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Many situations will require intelligent thought and handling so that you may achieve the harmony you desire. Make it a point today to invite interesting

new constructive ideas for the future.

harmonious, and expand in every direction possible.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Make this a day for meditation

# capital gains tax cancelled, the market rose 12

Israel's cabinet voted Sunday to cancel an unpopular capital gains tax, in a move aimed at bolstering the sagging stock market and restoring confidence in the economy.

profits, which was to go into effect Jan. 1 but had not been implemented, was cancelled by a vote of 13-2, said government secretary Shmuel

Yitzhak Rabin's credibility at a crucial juncture in the peace process with the Arabs and at a time of declining popularity over continuing The tax was widely blamed

cent, closing at 166.83. Former finance minister

Yitzhak Modai said the market's instability proved it was fundamentally unhealthy. "It wasn't the tax that brought down the stock market, and its cancellation will not revive it," Mr. Modai told army Hanna Pridan, an analyst

past year's nearly 15 per cent Mr. Rabin agreed to the

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

by being altruistic and lend a helping hand to allies and good friends so you can have the benefit of their friendship.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Today is the start of a new cycle which

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Excellent hunches will be

today, it is a good time to get together with associates and co far better understanding.

parties to interesting events. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You have a seeking and inquiring mind and if you make the effort to contact highly philosophical individuals you will gain new wisdom and many

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) A day to think out how to better your position in life, make home conditions more

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) By being very dynamic and happy today you will please others so much that you increase your circle of friends appreciably among the worthwhile. This leads to the success you deserve.

and the absorption of finer philosophical ideas that will place you more in the tune with what is right and proper.

Birthstone of February: Amethyst - Onyx

THE Daily Crossword by Richard Thornas

# Pe Peanuts









# <sup>f</sup>An Andy Capp







### Mu Mutt'n'Jeff











### world's richest countries also said they were optimistic about the state of the global

allies would contribute to a economy. \$10 billion loan package for Economic growth has been Mexico through the robust, inflation is moderate, Switzerland-based Bank for job creation is improving and International Settlements unemployment rates are fall-(BIS) and that the Internaing in most countries, Mr. tional Monetary Fund (IMF) Martin said. would make its biggest-ever "The challenge now is to loan of \$17.8 billion to Mex-

ensure that we sustain growth." Mr. Martin said, In a rare show of diplomaadding that there was no tic pique, half a dozen Euroroom for complacency on pean countries, including Germany and Britain, abstained when the board of the IMF voted on the Mexico rescue Wednesday, saving

getting budget deficits down. Japan assured its partners that its economy could continue to grow despite the damage from the Kobe earthquake in January. Japanese Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura said Japan is making its best efforts to cope with reconstruction.

port for the U.S.-led effort The Bank of Japan's Masayoshi Matsushita, who The exclusive club of the was appointed central bank

G-7 unanimously endorse Mexico rescue governor in December, said he was grateful that Japan's G-7 partners expressed condolences over the Kobe earthquake, which killed more than 5.000 people.

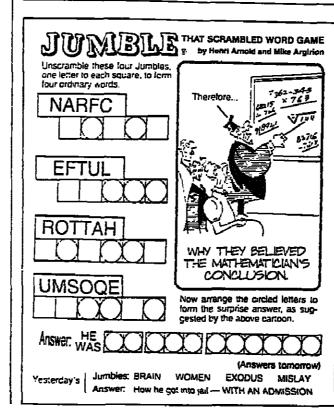
But the G-7 had harsher words for Russia, saying that they are concerned the recent rise in inflation and the war in Chechenya may throw Moscow off the course of economic reform.

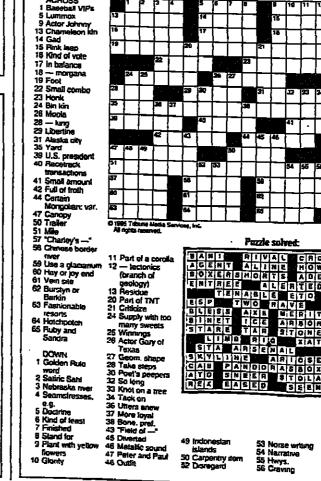
"The G-7 strongly encourage the Russian government to remain on the path to a market economy, an objective that can only be furthered by a timely agreement with the IMF on a standby (loan) agreement for Russia," Mr. Martin said.

The IMF, the world's monetary watchdog, negotiates loans to help economic reforms in developing countries, often with tough conditions attached.

# THE BETTER HALF. By Glasbergen

"If I treat you nice, you'll expect the whole world to treat you nice! I'd just be setting you up for disappointment!"





U.S. keeps current a VASHINGTON (AFP) — The WASHINGTON (AFF) 15c wastes \$5.24 billion for count amorts 55.24 billion for count see process, led by Israel an see process, led by Israel see process, led by Israel seekeeping funds. There will be seekeeping of State Warren Christ greatly of State ries receive \$3 hillion and \$2 budget. The exact amount uries under the new Advances the cases are seen the seen th the days. The Office States ais help strink the sanguora's deal ask peace with Israel. Some \$ ask do that end. But U.S. cont ask mader the proposal would be the sanguage of the sanguage of the last budget to \$\$15 millions. forsunder the proposal would be 1995 budget to \$545 million in 1995 budget the U.N. operation writer six months of the fiscal ye mouth March.

Valume 19 Number 583

ordan let an e

sty King Hussein has that peace between Jorand Israel would set "an apple" for the Middle East railed for more "personparts" between the two but peace will be an ex-

to the region." the rold a delegation of members of parliausing Jordan for the re should establish more more personal contacts. frontacts between us 21

evels." King Hussein le should do our best to ve a comprehensive We should work her for the best interest future generations. Hassein said at a dinner hour of the 29 members diament drawn from all

raeli gua head of a TLAHIA (Agencies) — in

inian militants killed an security guard and nded another in the sinian autonomous Strip on Monday in an ent attempt to embar-Yasser Arafat and emine autonomy taiks israel.

Palestine Liberation usation (PLO) chief dened the roadside al as a "dirty act" and sed swift punishment. bleaders said the attack Mr. Arafat's own turf cored Israeli comsthat he was not doing to foil attacks on

telephone call to the

ŭ,

iated Press in Jerua man claimed responon behalf of the erraric Front for the Liion of Palestine. P), a PLO faction. Radio said the miligroup Hamas also ed responsibility in ncements made over ne loudspeakers in but a Hamas spokes-

ambush came three elore a crucial Rabinmeeting aimed at getegotiations on expand-

Emad Falouji, denied

# Amascu mands (Agencies) - Eight

lates took a united m Monday against inonal tolerance of refusal to sign the r Non-Proliferation x. Syria and six Arab ates, meeting in Cairo eign ministers level, tempting Israel from

inspections was inible with Middle East the first time so many lates, at such a level. ken a common posithe negotiations leado a big non-proliferanterence in Geneva in

has never signed the which runs out this and the Arabs, led by have taken the opporlo lobby against the Buclear status Israel loreign ministers of Sar Saudi Arabia.

Bahrain, Oman, and the United Arab nprehensive peace there equitable and d security for all par-

remaining outside tella of the nuclear feration Treaty is after ble with achieving peace, stability and ent in the region not make the treaty and effective.

A review of economic news from the Arabic press

# Afr. Clinton said he is estate an increase is related to solice and said of both he is solice and Democrate the solice system because a people for Official: **Government** did not ask for 50,000 Ford cars

It is bour really serious ab

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☆☆ A top official source denied that the government had made a deal with the Sunday, however, the arrival day fell 3 6 per construction in 83 per minister k. Sunday day the mar. U.S. government to import 50,000 Ford cars to be assigned to Jordanian officials. The source said Jordan did not discuss this issue at the governmental level. According to market sources, the cars would cost less than JD 5,000 each and could be exempt from customs duty. The official said the government cannot presently afford the cost of these cars which would amount to about \$250 million. He added tthat if rumours are based on the Americans' intention to provide the cars as part of the U.S. assistance to Jordan, then the issue is purely of American concern but the government had not made any request in that regard (Al

> \* Al Zara-Ghor Hadithah road had been asphalted and is ready for official opening. The road is 31.5-kilometre long and is intended to serve the tourism industry as well as other economic sector in the Jordan Valley. The road, which links the northern and southern parts of the Kingdom and which runs parallel to the Desert Road to the west, will be a suitable alternative in case of emergency during the winter season (Al Dustour).

## The Department of Land and Survey collected JD 5.3 million in fees during January, 28 per cent higher than the amount collected during the same month of last year (Al Ra'i).

## The Bank for the Development of Cities and Villages extended credits amounting to JD 462,000 to eleven local councils during January (Al Ra'i).

☆☆ The Income Tax Department will be opening a directorate in Russeifah before mid-year. The directorate will collect the income tax from residents of Russeifah, Yajouz, Al Msherfeh, Jabal Faisal and the surrounding areas which are now under the Zarqa directorate (Al Ra'i).

\*\* The Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company (AMPCO) expects to earn \$6 million from exports of tomato paste this year. AMPCO needs 70,000 tonnes of fresh tomatoes to produce about 10,000 tonnes, 3,000 tonnes of which will be for local market needs (Al

\*\* Local consumption of cement is expected to reach two million tonnes next year with export contracts at 650,000 tonnes and the possibility of supplying cement to the West Bank (Sawt Al Shaab).

\* ★ Workers at the Jordan Glass Factory have sent a petition to the prime minister requesting that the general di kii management of the company move its premises to Ma'an non or to facilitate working proce-San ( dures and economise on spending (Al Ra'i).

hit stiff 本本 According to statistics issued by the Ministry of Industry and Trade a total of 140 companies with a JD 21.4 million capital were registered at the ministry in December 1994, compared to 165 companies with JD 28.4 million capital in December 1992. 1993. The number of companies which were dissolved in December 1994 was 70 with a JD 582,000 in capital. Foreign investments by five companies during the last month of 1994 totalled JD

thence to the surveillance by the surveillance is the hard polythese on Thursday to only 133 throughout the Kingdom (Al Aswaq).

The property of the second sec

# BCCI ready to compensate depositors in UAE

Commerce International (BCCI) in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has withdrawn enough assets to compensate thousands of its local creditors and payments will begin within a few months, officials said Sunday.

More than 30,000 creditors in the Gulf country will receive compensation representing up to 40 per cent of their deposits, half of which were placed in the local market, said Abdul Aziz Said,

"Collection of the BCCI assets here and abroad is underway and BCCI officials are now ready to pay the depositors. There is enough liquidity to give them up to 40 per cent of their funds," he told AFP, without giving any

Deposits with BCCI's eight branches in the Emirates \$10 billion.

The assets, half of which wree based in the UAE, stood at nearly \$2.72 billion, according to the bank's 1990 balance sheets.

Last week a Luxembourg court approved a \$1.8 billion compensation offer by majority shareholders for the near-250,000 creditors worldwide, clearing the way for payouts after more than two

years of legal wrangling.

within 40 days of the court decision.

"Disbursements will start by the summer, as some technical procedures need to be sorted out first," said Mr. Abdul Aziz, adding that the 40 per cent compensation would benefit both small and large depositors.

Most of the depositors with BCCI in the UAE are foreigners. His comments quashed rumours that small creditors would get all their money back. Several UAE banks and companies had depoists with

BCCI and the compensation should strengthen their financial position. They were forced to set aside a large part of their profits in loan loss provision. The Dubai Islamic Bank (DIB) was one of the biggest

dirhams (\$81.7 million). The BCCI collapse prevented DIB distributing profits to its shareholders for

JORDAN NATIONAL BANK JORDAN NATIONAL BANK / NEW

MIDDLE EAST INVESTMENT BANK.
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK
THE HOUSING BANK

JORDAN KUWAIT BANK JORDAN GULF BANK JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK UNION BANK FOR SAVING & INVESTMENT

COMPANY'S SAME

BUSINESS BANK

depositors with BCCI, with

funds of around 300 million

settlement is still possible three years, but it approved a cash dividend of six per cent of the capital in 1993, when net profits setood at 17 mil-

lion dirhams (\$4.63 million). Bankers said DIB made profits after it was forced to place an annual deposit of around 50 million dirhams (\$13.6 million) with the central bank.

Last year, DIB became the biggest Islamic bank in the world after it doubled its capital to 420 million dirhams (\$114.4 million). Officials said the bank had fully recovered from the BCCl crisis and they expected a surge in 1994 profits to 28 million dirhams (\$7.62 million).

"Whether we get 40 per cent of 100 per cent does not make any differences now. We have waited for a long time and we nearly gave up. said Ibrahim Atteyya, a BCCI depositor in the UAE. "At least I am recovering part of my money."

Abu Dhabi, the main oilproducing emirate in the UAE, owned 77 per cent of

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET BOUSING BANK CENTER AMON - SEMEISASI TELEPHONE: 660170 / 662170 ED MARKET SEARE PRICE LIST FOR SCHOOL 55/0

ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST

BCCI, which was one of the biggest financial institutions in the world before it was closed in 1991 and ordered liquidated a year later. It had assets of more than \$20 billion and branches in nearly 70

countries. Several BCCI defendants, mostly Pakistanis with British citizenship, will reappear in court here next Saturday for further appeal hearings.

Two defendants are being tried in absentia.

Former BCCI chief executive Mohammad Swaleh Naqvi was extradited to the United States, where he was sentenced to 11 years in prison in October on charges related to the BCCl collapse.

He and the other defendants, apart from one who was acquitted, were sentenced in Abu Dhabi to prison terms ranging from three to 14 years and ordered to pay around \$9 billion in compensatin to UAE President Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan and other BCCI owners.

PREV. CLOSING CLOSING PRICE

1.470 2.800 5.920

3.500

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4.420 5.900 2.600 2.910

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.790 1.370 .780

2.600 1.720

3.585

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PRICE

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# **Dubai landlords** shrug off soft property market

DUBAI (R) — Dubai's land-lords are shrugging off signs (\$21,800-\$27,250), while a lords are shrugging off signs of a soft property market and pouring cash into building high-rise apartment blocks, despite a growing oversupply that is driving rents down.

Even higher building costs. mainly due to increased cement prices, are not acting as a brake on investment. analysts say.

In the absence of a formal stock market, property is a popular investment vehicle among nationals, a fact borne out by the large number of cranes cluttering the city sky-

"This (real estate) is a traditional area of investment for Gulf investors — indeed the area in which most of the local family fortunes have been made," a banker says. According to estate agents.

the residential market in Dubai - the second largest emirate and commercial centre of seven in the United Arab Emirates — is saturated and rents have fallen by more than 10 per cent in the past few months.

"Rents came down sharply at the end of 1994... 150,000 dirham (\$40,872) villa is now going for 119,060 (\$29,972)," general manager at estate agents Goiden Gulf B.J. Jethani says, referring to annual rental costs.

Tenants, used to paying high prices for accommodation, are beginning to breathe easier. But landlords are frus-

Agents are having a tough time as competition for tenants heats up and they try to persuade owners to cut rents.

"We're telling landlords the market is the boss. Since 1988 they have been lucky, now they're having to bite the bullet and drop rents," says Linda Mahoney, managing director of local agents Better Homes. Around 80 per cent of

Dubai's population of almost 600,000 are expatriates, who are not permitted to own property. Most live in modest flats, while nationals and higher-earning foreigners live in luxurious villas or spacious anariments

Promotion Board puts the annual rent of a "good quality." twobedroom apartment at be-tween 40,000 dirhams to find a final solution to this (\$10,900) and 55,000 dirhams

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The manager at large private landowner Arenco Real Estate. Rory O'Connor. labels the current slowdown in the pace of rent rises a short-term correction. He says the longer-term trend is higher, despite the current oversupply.

Construction companies say landlords are confident the growing number of re-sidential blocks will be filled as the economy expands and more foreigners are attracted to Dubai's low-duty environ-

Emirates Universal Construction managing director S.N. Mankani singles out Hong Kong's return to Chinese control in 1997 as a major reason for the flurry of

building.
"Dubai is gearing up to attract some of the foreign companies from Hong Kong. There is an expectation of an influx of people."

He says the cost of building a residential block has risen to between 160 and 175 dirhams (S44-\$48) a square foot from between 145 and 155 dirhams (\$40-\$42) a year

Laing Emirates managing director Bruce Foot says that while industry costs are rising, the market is still buoyant.

'There's a lot of tendering activity and no reduction in the number of enquiries we're receiving," he said.

But the large number of contracting firms in Dubai makes it a very competitive market to work in and profit margins are narrow, Mr. Foot says. "Owners certainly are getting good value for their money."

According to officials, United Arab Emirates (UAE) needs to pump more than \$5 billionin the next few years to tackle a housing crisis caused by a rapid growth in the native population.

As government allocations for housing lag far behind actual needss, applications by In its latest business hand- national families seeking book, the Dubai Commerce homes have accumulated to nearly 25 000 and they conexceed 40,000 by the year

"There should be measures problem," the Public Works and Housing Ministry said in a letter to the cabinet this

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ABU DHABI (AFP) - The collapsed Bank of Credit and

court receiver for BCCI.

were estimated at around \$1.22 billion before it was shut worldwide in July 1991 amid allegations of massive fraud involving more than

The offer had already been endorsed by courts in Britain and Grand Cayman, whee BCCI also had headquarters. But an appeal against the

# Oman to invest \$3b in oil

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AFP) — Oman intends to pump more than \$3 billion into its oil industry until the year 2000 as part of overall expansion in the energy sec-tor, an Omani official said

Sunday. The investment do not cover a multi-billion-dollar plant to tap the Gulf state's gas reserves, which have grown to 25 trillion cubic feet (750 billion cubic metres) from 20 trillion cubic feet (600 billion cubic metres), said Salim Ibn Mohammad Shaaban, oil ministry undersecretary.

"Oman will invest more than \$3 billion in oil explora-

tion and production during the coming 1996-2000 development plan," he told the London-based Al Hayat

He said the figures did not include spending of between \$1.8 billion and \$1.9 billion by the Omani government ona \$6 billion gas liquefaction plant with an output capacity of six million tonnes per year.

Oma has been involved in negotiations with potential LNG buyers in South Korea and Japan so it will press ahead with the project, its first gas industry. Officials have said the project will go on stream in six years.

Financial

**Jordan Times** Markets Cairo Amman Bank



### Foreign Exchange Market Summary (January 30-February 3, 1995)

AMMAN - The dollar rose modestly against the mark and yen and sharply against sterling at the end of last week. It ended the week 0.79 per cent higher against the mark. 1.64 per cent higher against sterling and 0.47 per cent

At the beginning of the week, the dollar depreciated

against other major currencies. Its decline was attributed to

dealers' worries that the U.S. Congess might reject extending \$40 billion in loan guarantees to Mexico. These worries were ignited when the chairman of the Senate Banking Committee asked the Mexican government to reach an agreement with its creditors to secure the desired The dollar rose sharply against other major currencies Tuesday, when U.S. President Bill Clinton, managed to

put together a plan to extend loans to Mexico, which did not require Congressional approval. The new plan included \$47.5 billion loans to Mexico to be financed through the U.S. Treasury, the International Monetary Fund and the Bank for International Settlements.

The U.S. unit retreated Wednesday, however, despite a Fed tightening. The Federal Open Market Committee's (FOMC) meeting resulted in a 0.5 per cent increase in both the Fed funds rate and the discount rate to reach 6.0 percent and 5.25 per cent respectively. The dollar was little affected by the Fed's move, which had already been discounted by the market.

The dollar declined marginally against other major currencies Thursday. Reports indicated that trading was thin, as dealers were anticipating the release of U.S. employment report the following day.

At the end of the week, the dollar rose sharply against other major currencies. Its rebound came on the back of a U.S. stock and bond market rally. The U.S. financial markets rallied in view of the release of U.S. employment figures indicating that the U.S. economy is experiencing modest growth. The dollar also gained ground on mark sales by European central banks who sold marks for dollars to support their currencies against the mark.

The U.S. unit, thus ended the week at 1.5270 marks, 99.85 yen and at \$1.5635 to sterling.

# New York Cleaing Rates for Major Currencles Against the U.S. Dollar

_	27/1/1995	3/2/1995	Percent	
Currency	Close	Close	Change	
Sterling Pound	1.5895	1.5635	1.64%	
Deutsche Mark	1.5150	1.5270	0.798	
Swiss Franc	1-2736	1.2935	1.54%	
French Franc	5.2595	5.2930	0.631	
Japanese Yen	99.38	99.85	0.478	

	27/1/1995		3/2/1995	
Currency	I-Mooth(%)	-)-Year (%)	I-Meath (%)	(-Year (%
U.S. Dollar	5.75	7.12	6.06	6.93
Sterling Pound	6.00	7.56	6.56	7.69
Deutsche Mark	4.68	5.50	4.87	5.63
Suiss Franc	3.50	4.37	3.50	4.37
French Franc	. 5.31	6.45	5.43	6.56
Japanese Yen	2.06	2.18	2.21	2.42

### Control Bunk of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

	Pate: 5/2/1995		
Ситтелсу	Bid	Offer	
U.S. Dollar	0,7910	0,7030	
Sterling Pound	1,0952	1,1007	
Deutsche Mark	0,4584	0,4607	
Swice Franc	0,5416	0,5443	
French Franc	0,1323	0,1330	
Japanese Yen*	0,7033	0,7048	
Dutch Guilder	0,4090	0,4110	
Swedish Krona			
Italian Lira*	90434	0.436	
Belgian Franc			
T- 100			

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# Figure Skating

# **Bonaly takes** fifth gold

DORTMUND (AP) — Saving the best for last, Surya Bonaly made it five-for-five. Bonaly, 21, produced a smooth and exciting performance to gain her fifth con-

secutive European women's

figure skating title.

After falls and mistakes by several of the top skaters, including by two Russian contenders and the German hope, it was Bonaly who brought the crowd alive.

Her fifth straight title puts -her within one of the all-time European best shared by Katarina Witt and Sonja

Bonaly won her first title in 1991 and felt she has gotten better each year. "I've always learned a lot and tried to improve and develop as a personality,"

Bonaly said. Bonaly had been trailing entering the final free prog-ramme, worth two-thirds of the final score. And she had been perhaps vulnerable to a challenge from Russian Olga Markova, the leader after the

short programme. But Bonaly was on top of things, starting with a difficult and rare triple lutz-triple toe loop combination that she attempted for the first time in

competition. Skating to lively gypsy music, she added five more triple jumps that earned her marks in the 5.7 to 5.9 range on a scale of up to 6.0. She had four 5.9 for pre-

sentation. "I have been working a lot on that because the judges always have considered it a fault of mine," said Bonaly, noted for being more or a jumper than an artist on ice. Now Bonaly turns her attention to the world championships in March in Birmingham, England, last year she was favoured but came in second.

"I just want to go out there and skate my best," Bonaly said. "And not think of last year.'

Markova had to settle for the silver medal after scaling down a couple of jumps from triples to doubles, while Elena Liashenko of Ukraine placed third, although she was merely fifth in the free skating.

"I am not satisfied with my performance," said Markova. "I desperately wanted to win here. That's perhaps why I was so nervous." But the crowd loved the 21-year-old woman in red, skating gracefully to music from the musical "Miss Saigon," and gave her long applause. "On her home ice, Tanja

Szewczenko spoiled her medal hopes - and the chanting crowd's high expectations — with two falls and a couple of

Irina Slutskaya of Russia nearly got a medal with the third best free skating of the afternoon, also producing seven triple jumps. Marina Kielmann of Germany took sixth, 'jumping

from 13th. The championships ended with Russian collecting five medals.

Susanna Rahkamo and Petri Kokko gained Finland's first gold medal by capturing the ice dance event Friday.



Lavancy in a narrow 5-4 majority of judges. Earlier, young Ilya Kulik for Russian took the men's

Surya Bonaly: Saving

the best for last (AFP

The Finns edges France's Sophic Moniotte and Pascal

The 17-year-old Kulik held

off Olympic champion Alexei

Urmanov as both produced

superb free programmes.

Kulik barely missed two of nine triple jumps and Uram-

nov gained the only 6.0 of the

competition with lyrical skat-

the home crowd a victory to

more than make up for her stumble in the Olympics when she fell on her chin and was carried off by Steuer.

Radka Kovarikova and Rene

The Germans beat Czechs

Woetzel and Steuer gave

ing to Tchaikovsky.

victories.

event while Germans Mandy Silver-Alexei Urmanov, Russia. Woetzel and Ingo Steuer took the pairs in surprise

Silver-Olga Markova, Russia. Bronze-Elena Liashenko, Ukraine.

Gold-Susanna Rahkamo and Petri Kokko, Finland. Silver-Sophie Moniotte and Pascal Lavanchy, France Bronze-Angelika Krylova and Oleg Ovsiannikov,

Gold-Ilya Kulik, Russia. Bronze-Vyacheslav Zagorodniuk, Ukraine.

Gold-Surya Bonaly, France.

Gold-Mandy Woetzel and Ingo Steuer, Germany Silver-Radka Kovarikova and Rene Novotney, Czech Republic Bronze-Yevgenia Shishkova and Vadim Naumov, Russia.

# Ferrari likely to dominate Daytona's 24-hour race

DAYTONA BEACH, Florida (AP) — At a track best known for the exploits of American-made stock cars, Ferrari has had its moments of glory.

The last of those moments in the Daytona International Speedway spotlight came in 1972 when Mario Andretti and Jacky Ickx drove a Ferrari 312P sports car to victory in a six-hour race — the only time since 1996 that the event has been shorter than 24 hours.

That was the fourth overall victory for the Italian cars. But Ferrari, which has not run here in the top division of the Rolex 24-hour race, the season-opener for the International Motor Sports Association and it's exxon Supreme Series, since that 1972 victory, is likely to dominate this version of America's most famous important endurance

Last year, IMSA dropped its former showcase, the GT prototype division, in favour of the world sports cars, which were intended to promote competition and lower costs.

The Ferraris were not yet ready for competition and a slim and untried field of WSCS failed to make much of an impact in the 24-hour race, succumbing to a variety of mechanical problems as a Nissan 300ZX GTS-class entry became the first production-based car to win the race since

Since then, Ferrari has come aboard the series with a bang, dominating the WSC division.

Now, in their first 24-hour outing, four of the Ferrari 333SP world sports car entries will be at the front of what is expected to wind up a field of about 60 cars.

# Novotny, with world cham-pions Yevgenia Shishkova and Vadim Naumov in third. Cole strike turns up heat on Rovers

LONDON (AFP) — Andy Cole's first goal for Manches-ter United put the champions within two points of Pre-miership leaders Blackburn on Saturday, as manager Alex Ferguson received a double boost in his bid for a third successive title.

-After months of speculation about this imminent departure to Everton -- intensified by the arrival of Cole last month - Welsh star Mark Hughes confirmed his immediate future at Old Trafford by signing a new two-year deal before the match. Six million pound striker Cole gave Ferguson a further

lift as United secured all three points with a 1-0 victory over Aston Villa. The victory turned up the heat on Kenny Dalglish's men, who face a difficult trip

to Tottenham on Sunday. Cole, whose left eye was badly swollen after an early clash with Bryan Small, broke his 11-match scoring drought with a typically sharp close-range finish. Cole said he was delighted that United had agreed a new two-year deal with Hughes, who will partner him when he completes his recovery from

a knee injury. 'I came to United to play with the best players in the country," said Cole. "We're without Eric Cantona for the test of the season, but I'm looksing forward to playing with Mark. He's a great player and I admire him and the way he plays."

Ferguson was disappointed by his side's overall performance but was happy that his British-record signing got on the scoresheet.

Les Ferdinand, again the subject of transfer speculation this week, netted twice within eight minutes after

victory at Loftus Road with

all the goals coming in the first 18 minutes.

being set up on each occasion, by his teenage striking partner Kevin Gallen. Simon Barker completed the scoring against Kevin Keegan's side, who were

short of eight players through 'flu', injury and suspension. Two of the league's most promising strikes were on the mark at the City Ground, where Liverpool's Robbie Fowler ended his six-game

goal drought by cancelling

# **BRITISH SOCCER**

Cole pounced for his 16th goal of the season after 18 minutes when Ryan Giggs' corner was nodded down by Gary Pallister to end the three-game winning run of

Brian Little's improving side. Giggs later went off following a clash with John Fashanu who was carried off on a

Meanwhile, Cole's former teammate suffered a thrashing at the hands of QPR, who stormed to a 3-0 out Stan Collymore's opener for Nottingham Forest.

Red cards were in evidence at Hillsborough, where Sheffield Wednesday advantage of Arsenal being reduced to nine men with a 3-1 win. Tony Adams, on his first

league start for two months, was given his marching orders for lashing out at Mark Bright while new signing John Hartson was sent off for a challenge on Romanian Dan Petrescu.

# Japan's Date wins **Toray** title

TOKYO (AP) — Kimiko Date, playing better and bet-ter as the tournament progressed, defeated a sloppyserving American Lindsay Davenport on Sunday to become the first Japanese to win the Toray Pan Pacific Open tennis tournament. The fifth-seeded Date won

6-1, 6-2 in 52 minutes as Davenport served nine double faults. Date raised her racket in

the air to acknowledge the cheers of the more than 7,400 spectators.

"I reached my peak on the final day," she said, alluding to her long, close matches in the first and second rounds. "I wasn't able to get my concentration and rhythm at the beginning but I regained them as the tournament proceeded."

Date, 24 years old and ranked No. 10 in the world, broke in the second game of the first set at love, jumped to a 3-0 lead and went on to take the first set on the artificial court at Tokyo Metropolitan Gym.

Davenport broke in the fourth game of the second set at love for a 2-2 tie, but Date rallied to win the next four games. Davenport hit a forehand long on match point.
"I didn't play well today.

My serve really let me down," said the 18-year-old American, ranked No. 6.

Date earned \$148,500 and increased her career earnings to \$1,092,094, the first Japanese tennis player to sur-pass the \$1 million barrier. Date is also the first Japanese to win this tournament, first

held in 1984. Davenport took home

### Provis wins Amway Classic

In Auckland, New Zealand, Australian wild card Nicole Bradtke railied to defeat defending champion Ginger Helgeson Nielsen in three sets Sunday in the final of the \$107,500 Amway Classic women's tennis tourna-

Bradtke, 25, defeated the second-seeded American 3-6, 6-2, 6-1 in just under two hours to win her first title for

The former French Open semifinalist used her accurate groundstrokes to keep Helgeson Nielsen on the run in many of their rallies.

The quality of her returns added to the pressure on her opponent, who failed to hold serve in the final two sets. Bradtke, formerly Nicole Provis, trailed by a set and a service break before before fighting back impressively.

"It's never over before the last point is won and I just tried to maintain that attitude," said Bradtke.

Bradtke, once ranked 24th in the world, earned \$17,000 for the third major title of her

# SPORTS IN BRIEF

# Bruguera, Ivanisevic in Dubai Open

DUBAI (R) — Six of the world's top 20 players will be playing in the Dubai Open which starts on Monday with the top matches scheduled for evening because of the holy month of Ramadan, when Muslims fast during the day. Heading the field in the 1 million ATP-sanctioned tournament will be French Open champion Sergei Bruguera and Wimbledon finalist Goran Ivanisevic, Ivanisevic, seeded two, is paying his first visit to the Gulf Arab Emirae. Top seed Bruguera, who lost in last year's finals, will be making another attempt to capture the top prize of \$142,000. Last year's winner Magnus Gustaffson of Sweden is unable to defend his title because of an injury.

### Brazilian player dies during match

BRUSSELS (AP) — A 23-year-old Brazilian soccer player died Saturday evening after suffering a heart attack during the Belgian second division match. Calmito Augusto of his Boom FC collapsed 10 minutes into the second half of his team's match against Geel. He was pronounced dead shortly after arrival at Geel hospital, the Belgian news agency Bega reported. The referee halted the game, which boom FC was leading 3-0.

### Work begins to modify Imola track

IMOLA (R) - Work to modify the Imola Formula One is race track, where Brazilian Aryton Senna crashed to his death last year, began on Saturday after the Italian government approved a \$6 million rebuilding plan. Federico Bendinelli, of the Sagis Company which runs the circuit, said the San Marino Grand Prix would go ahead as scheduled on April 30 after the convenement ministry gave scheduled on April 30 after the environement ministry gave the plan the green light on Friday to modify the Tamburello, Villeneuve and Lower Variante Curves as they reconstruct some 50 per cent of the track to bring it into line with new safety standards.

### Spartak Moscow wins Commonwealth Cup

MOSCOW (AP) - Dmitry Alenichev and Mukhsin Mukhamadiev scored three minutes apart early in the second half Saturday, sparking Spartak Moscow to a 5-1 victory over Dynamo Tbilisi and its third straight five-aside Commonwealth Cap. With Spartak leading 1-0 on Nikolai's Pisarev's 13th-minute goal, Alenichev scored in Strhand Muhamadian in the 61st to the lead to 2.0 58th and Mukhamadiev in the 61st to hike the lead to 3-0. The \$100,000 Commonwealth Cup was organized after the Soviet Union collapsed. All former Soviet republics took

### Volker beats own backstroke record

PARIS (R) - Germany's Sandra Volker improved her own European short-course record for the women's 50 metres backstroke in the Parisian stage of the Swimming World Cup on Saturday. Volker, bronze medallist in the 100 metres backstroke at the European Championships in 1003 clocked 27.77 1993, clocked 27.77 seconds, 0.09 seconds faster than her previous best, set in Hong Kong earlier this year. The record provided the only excitement of an otherwise lack-lustre meeting.

### Haitian president causes stir at match

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) - President Jean-Bertrand Aristide turned a tennis club into an armed camp Saturday when he showed up to watch Haiti's Davis Cup' doubles match against Canada. A half dozen military vehicles filled with U.S. soldiers in full battle gear rolled into the parking lot of Bailevue Club, where the three-day contest is under way. "This is our job, to make sure he gets here and gets back," said U.S. Army Lt. Col. Ed Davis, "We're trying to stay in the background." Aristide, dressed in a white sports shirt and grey slacks, greeted players of both teams. "To those who win, good luck," he said. "To those who lose, good luck as well."

### Nantes humbled by semi-pros

PARIS (AFP) - Nantes, France's unbeaten league leaders, were sensationally dumped out of the French Cup by the semi-professional team of St. Leu on Saturday night. St. Leu, a third division club based in a forest suburb northeast of Paris, held their mighty opponetns to a 1-1. home draw after extra time — and then won the penalty shoot-out 4-2. For Nantes, unbeaten in their 24 league matches this season and 10 points clear at the top of the first divisions, it was their second cup disaster in less than two weeks. They previously went down 1-0 at home to Bastia in the League Cup.

### Deportivo frustrated by 10-man Bilbao

LA CORUNA, Spain (R) — Deportivo Coruna were held to a frustrating 0-0 home draw Saturday by a stubborn Athletic Bilbao who played half the match with 10 men. Juan Goicoetxea was sent off for the visitors two mintues before halftime for a second bookable offence and although the Galicians pushed forward to droves late in the game, the well-disciplined Bilbao defence held firm. Deportivo's best chance came four minutes from time. Javier Manjarin swung in a corner and Donato Da Silva's precise header was brilliantly tipped over the bar by goalkeeper Juan Valencia. Despite dropping a point, Deportivo remain second in the table, a point behind Real. Madrid who play Sevilla on Sunday.

### Former relay gold medalist Brown dies

CONEYHURST, England (AP) — Godfrey Brown, who anchored Britain's gold medal winning 1,600 metre relay team at the 1936 Olympics, died Saturday after a short illness, he was 79. Brown also won a silver medal in the 400 in the 1936 Games at Berlin's Olympic stadium, and two years later won the European title over the same distance. On the same day Brown won Olympic gold, his elder sister, Audrey, won a bronze medal for Britain in the women's 400 meter relay. Brown, a widower from Coneyburst, is survived by one son and three daughters.

### Spinal surgery for Sharpe

GREEN BAY (AFP) — Green Bay Packers wide receiver Sterling Sharpe is expected to spend the weekend in hospital after surgery to repair two vertebrae in his neck, the National Football League team said. Team doctor Patrick McKenzie said the operation went as planned, and Sharpe was resting comfortably. Sharpe, the Packers' career receptions leader with 595 catches, was injured in a game against Atlanta on December 18. He reinjured his necks the following week. He suffered tingling and weakness in Sharpe's arms and legs and forced him of miss Green Bay's two play-off games.

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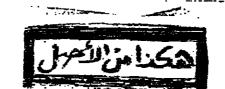
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# Cavaliers win; Dee Brown ties Bird's record | Davis Cup

CLEVELAND (AP) — John Williams scored 19 points and Bobby Phills made a short bank shot to stop a Cleveland dry spell in the fourth quarter as the Cavaliers held off the Indiana Pacers 82-73 Saturday night.
The Cavaliers ended a

four-game losing streak, their worst of the season, and Indiana's three-game winning streak.

It was the 10th time Cleveland has held an opponent under 80 points this year; the Cavs have won all 10. Indiana's 73 points were a season low for the Pacers.

Phills scored 17, Danny Ferry had 12 and Tyrone Hill collected 14 rebounds for the Cavs. Reggie Miller scored 19 and Derrick McKey 12 for the Pacers.

Celtics 92, Nets 78: In East Rutherford, N.J. Dee Brown tied Larry Bird's team record vith seven 3-pointers and scored a season-high 31 points to lead the Boston Celtics to a victory over the injury-riddled New Jersey

The Celtics hit 11 3pointers and got 17 points from Dominique Wilkins in winning for just the second time in nine games.

Brown, taken out of Boston's starting lineup two games ago, hit eight of his first nine shots and finished 10-for-18 from the field. Chris Morris had 20 points

for the Nets, who played without Derrick Coleman and Kenny Anderson, both out with injuries.

Pistons 84, Hawks 78: In Auburn Hills, Michigan, Grant Hill scored 22 points and Terry Mills added 18 points and 17 rebounds, leading the Detroit Pistons over the Atlanta Hawks. Joe Dumars contributed 17

retired the No. 40 jersey of his former teammate, Bill Laimbeer. Atlanta was led by Mookie Blaylock's 16 points. Grant Long had 15. Ken Norman

points on a night the Pistons

had 14 off the bench for the 7 'awks. Detroit made just 25 of 73 field goal attempts, including 3-for-19 shooting in the

fourth quarter, but outscored the Hawks 26-11 at the free throw line. Mavericks 119, Jazz 98: In Dallas, Jim Jackson and Jamal Mashburn went on a third quarter tear and the

Dallas Mavericks snapped a 17-game losing streak to Dallas hadn't defeated the Jazz since Nov. 23, 1991.

Utah lost its second straight on the road after a 15-game winning streak and played the second half without coach Jerry Sloan, who was ejected. Jackson had 30 points and Mashburn added 25 for the Mavericks while Jason Kidd

had 16 points and nine assists. George McCloud came off the bench to score 22 points.

Popeye Jones and Lorenzo Williams had 15 rebuonds apiece for Dalias, which had lost nine of its previous 10. Karl Malone scored 22 points and had 10 rebounds



Stacey Augmon of the Atlanta Hawks tries to shoot over Derrick Coleman of the New Jersey Nets (AFP photo)

and John Stockton had 20 to lead the Jazz. Jeff Hornacek had 13 points.

San Autonio 97, Sacramento 96: In San Antonio, David Robinson scored 34 points and tied the game in the final minute as the San Antonio Spurs defeated the Sac-

ramento Kings.

With the victory, San
Antonio improved its winning streak to seven games. The Spurs grabbed a 94-93 lead on a basket by Robin-

son with two minutes remainbut Mitch Richmond made a 3-pointer - his first points of the fourth quarter to give the Kings a 96-94

Robinson followed with a dramatic dunk with 49.2 seconds remaining to tie it. Dennis Rodman, who had 22 rebounds for the Spurs, then hit one of two free throws with 35.4 seconds left to give

the Spurs the win. Alaa Abdelnaby led the Kings with 24 points, and Richmond added 19.

76ers 102, Bucks 96: In Milwaukee, Dana Barros scored 31 points, including 12 in the final period as the Philadelphia 76ers held off a

furious fourth-quarter charge to beat the Milwaukee Bucks.

Barros hit a breakaway basket, a momentum-killing 3-pointer and seven of eight free throws in the fourth quarter after the 76ers had blown most of their 22-point

Reserve Jon Barry's 13 fourth-quarter points helped pull the Bucks, who had beaten Philadelphia three times this season, within four points on two occasions after trailing 81-63 at the end of three periods. Clarence Weatherspoon

added 20 points and 10 rebounds for Philadelphia. Vin Baker, who had 16 points and 18 rebounds for

Robinson scored 22.

Milwaukee, and Glenn

Lakers 121, Clippers 118: In Los Angeles, Eddie Jones scored 30 points and Anthony Peeler added a season-high 27 as the Los Angeles Lakers defeated the Clippers 121-118.

Nick Van Exel added 20 points for the Lakers. Malik Sealy led the Clippers with a career-high 34 points. Loy Vaught had 28 points and 10 rebounds and Tony Massenburg had 20.

The Lakers played without starters Cedric Ceballos and Elden Campbell, and lost starting centre Vlade Divac in the second half.

Divac bruised his right thigh at the end of the first quarter. He returned in the second quarter to play nearly 17 minutes.

# RESULTS

Cleveland	82	Indiana	73
Detroit	84	Atlanta	78
Boston	92	New Jersey	78
Dallas	119	Utah	98
Philadelphia	102	Milwankee	96
San Antonio	97	Sacramento	96
LA Lakers	121	LA Clippers	118

# Hull has first NHL hat-trick of season

Hull recorded his first hattrick of the season and Denis Chasse added two goals and ar assist to lead the St. Louis Blues to their third straight win, a 7-4 victory over the Dallas Stars Saturday.

The hat-trick was the 22nd of Hull's career. Kevin Hatcher had a goal and an assist for the Stars. In Boston, Jozef Stumpel's goal with 8:24 left in the game lifted the Boston Bruins to a 5-4 victory today

WITH CMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

NORTH • Q 9 2

SOUTH

South Dbl

. Opening lead: I wo of vorthere's nothing we detest more han someone giving us a hand with in "r" in place of a spot card. Had hat been the case here, no one could tave unearthed the best line.

"Even at this vulnerability, we have South is too strong for a one-

hink South is too strong for a onespade overcall. The right way to

4 10 5 8

EAST • 4 7 J 9 3 • K Q 10 6 4 • A K 10 8

goal, his first of

the season, finished a threeon-one attack on Hartford goalie Sean Burke. Boston's offence bombarded Burke with 53 shots,

including 22 in the final period. In Montreal, Mike Keane scored two goals and set up another and Patrick Roy made 32 saves to lead the Montreal Canadiens to a 4-2

victory over the New York

handle the hand is to double first, then show your suit. When North scraped up a raise, South went on to game.

by the jack and queen and ducked in the clused hand. The diamond con-tinuation was taken by the ace and a

diamond was ruffed on the table Despite our normal railing against simply taking a finesse, the winning

line now is to take not one, but two

The ten of hearts was led from

dummy and, had East ducked, de-clarer would have run it in the hope

cierer would have you in the the something good might happen. However, East covered with the lack and declarer's queen lost to the king. West shifted to a club to East's

West shifted to a club to Esst's king and a trump was returned. Declarer won in hand, entered dummy with queen of trumps and led the eight of hearts for a finesse against the nine. If East covered, declarer would win with the ace and the seven would be high. If East ducked, so would declarer and the eight would win. South's thoughtful play resulted in the loss of only one trick in

ed in the loss of only one trick

**GOREN BRIDGE** 

**KEEP SHOVELLING** 

In Washington, Calle Johansson's power-play goal with 6:29 remaining gave the Washington Capitals a 3-2 victory over Florida Panth-

In Philadelphia, Brent Fedyk, Garry Galley and Eric Lindros scored second period goals as the Philadelphia Flyers ended a three-game winless streak with a 4-2 win over the Buffalo Sabres.

Galley and Fedyk both scored on the power play in the second period before Lindros extended the Flyers lead to 4-1 with only a second left

in the period. In Winnipeg, Todd Elik's second goal of the game with 6:35 left in the third period lifted the San Jose Sharks into a 3-3 tie with the Win-

nipeg Jets. The Sharks extended their. unbeaten streak to six games but had their five-game winning streak halted.

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equipment & tools). The tender documents are available at JPMC offices in Amman Supply Department, until 2,00 p.m. local time Thursday 16th February 1995. Application for documents should be accompanied by a nonrefundable fee of J.D. (30) for

each set of tender documents. The closing date for submitting bids is 12.00 hours local time Monday 6th

March 1995. Sameh Madani **Managing Director** 

# Germany, Russia advance

LONDON (AP) — Germany and Russia secured places in the second round of the 1995 Davis Cup Saturday, while defending champion Sweden avoided elimination by winning its doubles match against Denmark.

Sweden, after losing both sweden, after losing both singles matches on Friday, rallied behind Jan Apeil and Jonas Bjorkman, who lost the first set before posting a 6-7 (6-8), 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 victory over Kenneth Carlsen and Morten Christensen.

Denmark, without a player ranked in the top 200, can still pull off the upset if either Carlsen beats two-time Wimbeldon champion Stefan Edberg or Frederik Fetterlein plays Bjorkman in Sunday's reverse singles on the indoor carpet at

Copenhagen.

The last defending champion nation to lose in the first round was the United States, eliminated by Australia after

winning the title in 1992. Russia, last year's runner up, raced to an insurmonut-able 3-0 lead over Belgium at Antwerp, with Yevgeny Kafelnikov and Andrey Olhovskiy beating Libor Pimek and Filip Dewulf 2,6, 7-5, 7-5, 6-3.

At Karlsruhe, Germany, Boris Becker and Michael Stich put aside their personal rivalry to give Germany a 3-0 lead over Croatia.

The two German stars. who have openly feuded off the court, proved too strong for Goran Ivanisevic and Sasa Hirszon in a 6-4, 7-6 (7-3), 7-5 victory.

Croatia, making its World Group debut, had pinned its hopes of an upset against Germany on Ivanisevic, the left-hander whose powerful serve has carried him to the world No. 5 ranking.

But the Germans pounced on Ivanisevic's cannonball serve at key moments, breaking him at 5-4 to claim the first set.

Becker and Stich teamed up to win a gold medal in doubles at the 1992 Olympics, but Becker's appearance in Friday's singles was the first time he has played Davis Cup since Germany's 1992 win against Belgium. His rehictance to play has be source of the latest feud with Stich.

There's a lot of competition between the two of us --no question," said Stich, who had threatened to quit Davis



Sweden's Jonas Bjorkman

Cup play if Becker tried to join the team after skipping the early rounds. "But we're just a good doubles team." Elsewhere, play finally got

underway in Durban, South Africa, where Friday's singles had to be postponed because a rain leak made a speciallyprepared court unplayable. On Saturday, it was

crushing humidity and a stomach virus that took their toll on Australia as the teams split the opening singles.

Wayne Ferreira, the world

No. 11 singles player and anchor of the South African team, beat doubles ace Mark Woodforde in straight, hard-fought sets, 7-6 (8-6), 7-5 and

Woodforde, half of the formidable "woodies" pair with Todd Woodbridge, was rushed into the match when Richard Fromberg fell ill with a stomach virus.

In the other match, Patrick Rafter, Australia's top sing-les planer, wilted in the humidity of the Indian Ocean city but still saw off Marcos Ondruska, 6-3, 6-4, 2-6, 6-4 in 2 hours, 49 minutes.

But the exhausted Rafter had to be treated for dehydration afterward and it was unclear what kind of shape he would be in for a reverse singles match against Ferreira. The doubles will be fol-

lowed by the reverse singles. Elsewhere in the World Group, Italy took a 2-1 lead over the Czech Republic, as did Austria over Spain, the Netherlands over Switzerland and the United States over

On clay at Geneva, Jacco Eltingh and Paul Haarhuis, the top doubles pair in the world, defeated Switzerland's Jakob Hlasek and Lorenzo Manta 6-3, 6-4, 5-7, 6-4. The Swiss pair had never

played together before, even in practice. Manta, making his David Cup debut and ranked No. 458 in the world, tepped in for Swiss No. 1 Marc Rosset, who broke his right foot in his match Friday and will be sidelined for up to three months.

On hard court at Vienna, Thomas Muster and Alex Antonitsch beat Spanish duo Sergi Bruguera and Emilio Sanchez 6-2, 3-6, 6-3, 6-3.

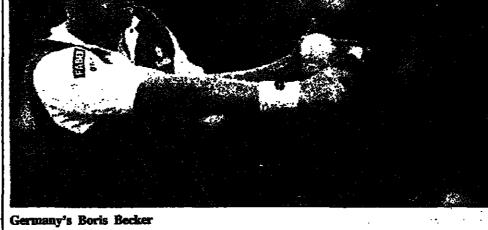
Bruguera, ranked No. 4 in the world, proved a weak partner for Sanchez, an exced doubles player who has won many doubles titles with correctly injured partner Sergio Casal.

"Today we had two singles players and two doubles players on court," said Muster, also a singles specialist. "Alex player better than Sanchez, and I played better than Bruguera. So we won."

On clay at Naples, Italians Stefano Pescosolido and Cristian Brandi defeated Cyril Suk and Martin Damm 6-2,

1-6, 7-6 (7-3), 7-6 (7-2). On the indoor carpet at St. Petersburg, Florida, Richey Reneberg and Jared Palmer rejoined a week after their Australian Open title victory for a 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 win in doubles over Guy Forget and Oliver Delaitre.

The victory puts France on the defensive with Gny Forget scheduled to play his third match in as many days Sunday to open the reverse singles against Todd Martin. Jim Courier, who trounced Forget in straight sets Friday, will face Pioline in Sunday's other singles match.



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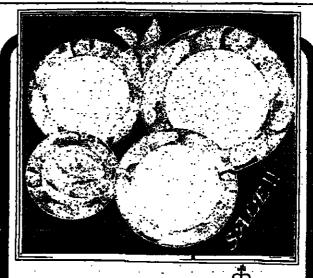
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# **NEWS IN BRIEF**

### Turkey offers to sell water to Israel

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Turkey has proposed to sell Israel 60 million cubic metres of drinking water a year to solve shortages, officials said Sunday. However, Water Commissioner Gideon Tzur said the price of \$1.2 a cubic metre, including sea transport, was three times what Israel wanted to pay. The amount proposed would cover 10 per cent of national domestic consumption in Israel today. Mr. Tzur was to visit Turkey later this month to try to negotiate a deal.

### Israel introduces new 10 shekel coin

TEL AVIV (AP) - The Bank of Israel announced Sunday that a new 10-shekel coin would go into circulation this week. The step came after annual inflation surged to 14.5 per cent last year, nearely twice the government's target for 1994. Shmuel Bilitsky, head of the bank's currency department, said the 10 shekel (\$3.3) coin will replace bills that cost the same to print but have a shorter life span. One side of the coin shows a date tree with the inscription "Liberation of Zion," the other is engraved with the word Israel in Hebrew, Arabic and English and shows a cluster of dates. Bank of Israel said that the 10-shekel coin was the first to be made of two different coloured metals.

### Two Israelis die in old minefield

TEL AVIV (AP) - Two Israelis died this weekend when they strayed into an old minefield near the Red Sea resort of Eilat, police said Sunday. The two Eilat residents drove a jeep into a fenced-off area near kibbutz Elot and triggered an old mine, Israel radios and police added. Warning signs were prominently placed outside the area and it was not clear why the two men entered the minefield,

### Mauritanian opposition leader freed

NOUAKCHOTT (R) - Mauritania's main opposition leader, arrested last month on charges of fomenting bread riots, returned to his home in the capital on Sunday after being freed from detention in the interior of the country. Ahmad Ould Daddah, leader of the main opposition Union of Democratic Forces, told Reuters he had been held in Tichitt, 700 kilometres from the capital. Mr. Ould Daddah, half-brother of the former French colony's first president, Moktar Ould Daddah, was the last of eight opposition activists detained after the riots to return home. Hamdi Ould Mouknass, head of the Union for the Progress of Democracy, returned home on Friday and six other opposition millitants from the two groups have been freed, party and family sources said.

### Detainees still have sex with their wives

CAIRO (AFP) - Dozens of Islamic militants jailed in Egypt have had regular sex with their wives during prison visits and fathered children, ignoring an official ban, the Egyptian weekly Rose Al Yussef reported Sunday. During the weekly visits by relatives "the man sleeps with his wife while his cellmates hide them with blankets," the magazine said. Under Egyptian law male or female prisoners are forbidden to have sex with their partners. Prison department chief Nabil Seyam denied that such activities were allowed after his appointment last summer. But Rose Al Yussef said one militant, Assem Abdul Maged, sentenced to hard labour for life for involvement in the assassination of former President Anwar Sadat in October 1981, was a bachelor when he entered prison but a few years later got married in jail and became a father.

### Iraqi team leaves Egypt without deal

CAIRO (AFP) — The first Iraqi delegation to visit Egypt since the 1991 Gulf war left here without food and medicine contracts but secured promises of future economic cooperation, an Arab diplomat said Sunday. The diplomat said the trade delegation left Saturday after a week-long visit which went unreported in Egypt. Baghdad broke ties with Egypt which took part in the U.S.-led offensive to drive Iraq from Kuwait in January-February 1991. The Egyptian-Iraqi talks produced "a joint understanding calling for stronger bilateral economic cooperation in future, especially after the lifting of the embargo" imposed after the August 1990 invasion of Kuwait, he said. "No agreement however was concluded on supplying Egyptian food and medicine to Baghdad," the diplomat added.

### Sudan denies bombing Ugandan border areas

KHARTOUM (R) - Sudan on Sunday denied charges by neighbouring Uganda that it bombed Ugandan territory as part of a campaign to crush rebels from southern Sudan who have taken refuge there. State-owned Radio Omdurman said Omar Yousef Barido, the first under-secretary of foreign affairs, summoned Uganda's charge d'affaires and told him the Sudanese army had clear instructions not to bomb inside Uganda. Mr. Barido said the bombing charges were part of a media campaign against Sudan. Uganda last week officially complained to Sudan over the alleged bombings. Sudan's ambassador to the Ugandan capital Kampala, Einayet Mohammad, said Thursday he could not rule out the possibility that the Sudanese air force had bombed border areas and might do so again in its war against the rebels.

## Iran has 500,000 drug addicts

TEHRAN (AFP) — Iran has 500,000 drug addicts among its population of around 60 million, Interior Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati said Sunday. Mr. Besharati told the daily Kayhan that there had been a sharp drop in the number of addicts since the 1979 Islamic revolution which toppled the Shah. There were "two million addicts in Iran in the year before the revolution, although the population was only 37 million at the time," he said. Iran is a major transit route for drugs, mainly opium, from Afghanistan and Pakistan destined for Europe and North America. Some of the drugs are synthesised into heroin and morphine before they are exported. The authorities here, however, have waged a merciless war against drug trafficking in the past five years, sealing off borders and handing down stiff punishments to smugglers.

### Egyptian mufti bans poor from smoking

CAIRO (AFP) - Egypt's mufti, the country's highest Sunni Muslim authority, has declared it "unlawfu!" for poor people to smoke if they cannot afford to feed their families, newspapers reported Sunday. "I do not want to impose a total ban on tobacco use, but it is unlawful if the smoker is poor and cannot manage to feed his family." said Sheikh Mohammad Sayed Tantawi, goted by Al Akhbar daily. "Smoking is not desirable from the religious viewpoint, but it is tolerated if the smoker is well-off, or if he cannot concentrate on his work without tobacco. However, it would be better if you gave up cigarettes," the mufti told Egyptians. A packet of Egypt-made cigarettes costs 1.5 Egyptian pounds (\$0.45), while imported foreign cigarettes cost four pounds (\$1.2) a packet.

### Saudi prince gives \$7 million to charity

DUBAI (R) - Saudi Arabian businessman Prince Al Waleed Ben Talal Ben Abdul Aziz, who owns nearly 25 per cent of Euro Disney SCA, gave away 29 million riyals (\$7.7 million) to 185 charities, his bank said on Sunday. A detailed list by United Saudi Commercial Bank (USCB) sent to Reuters said the prince's Ramadan donations this year were nine million riyals (\$2.4 million) more than the

# **Brown** begins **Mideast** mission

CAIRO (Agencies) — U.S. Commerce Secretary Ronald H. Brown opened a Middle East tour on Sunday, pledging to encourage economic development in the region to further prospects for peace.

Mr. Brown also said, after talks with President Hosni Mubarak, that his visit to Cairo was intended to express American appreciation for the Egyptian leader's role in the Mideast peace process.

"We will be doing everything we can to focus on regional economic development, how it can have a positive impact on the lives of the people in the entire re-gion." Mr. Brown said in outlining the purpose of his

trip.
Mr. Brown will make stops in Jordan, Israel, the West Bank and Gaza, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar before leaving for

Washington on Friday. On Wednesday, he will join in a meeting of trade officials from the Palestinian territories, Israel, Jordan and Egypt in the Egyptian resort of Taba, near the Israeli bor-

Asked if he would address Arab fears that the U.S.backed peace process would wind up with Israel dominating the region's economy. Mr. Brown said we would try to allay "the fears of all of the parties" taking part in peace negotiations.

Mr. Brown's original schedule did not include a stop in Cairo, and he said the visit was added to deliver a letter from President Bill Clinton congratulating Mr. Mubarak on the success of last week's summit of Israeli and Arab

"We wanted to express the appreciation of the United States for the leadership role that President Mubarak has taken in creating a sense of momentum in the peace process," he said.

He said the letter from Mr. Clinton congratulated the Egyptian president for last Thursday's meeting. Mr. Brown referred to "the extraordinary leadership and courage" that Mr. Mubarak showed in the peace process.

Last week's summit meeting in Cairo was the first time that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin met together with the Arab leaders who reached peace accords with Israel — Mr. Mubarak, King Hussein and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

### Syria criticises summit

Svria said Sunday only Israel gained from the sum-

mit. The Cairo meeting gave nothing to the Arabs and Israel obtained what it wanted without vielding anything," said the official daily Al Thawra.

The government newspaper Tishreen said Israel was "the sole beneficiary" from the meeting and "nothing positive came out of it concerning Jewish colonisation, the closure (of the Palestinian territories). Jerusalem or nuclear weapons.'

"Israel's position has not changed. On the contrary, Israel has become more arrogant since the meeting and stepped up settlement expansion on the West Bank."

Tishreen said Mr. Rabin's call for the Palestinian self-rule authority to wipe out "terrorists" meant "in his language, the Palestinian uprising and Palestinian patriotic forces fighting to end the occupation and col-

The mouthpiece of Syria's ruling party, Al Baath, said Israel had scored a point at the Cairo summit, which was "an attempt to suggest that a new axis has been born." Syrian-Israeli peace talks are stalled over the scope and timetable of a planned Israeli withdrawal from the Golan

Middle East war. The official daily Syria Times also attacked Mr. Arafat who it said pledged to help stop anti-Israeli resist-ance while Mr. Rabin did not budge from his "tough poli-

"Rabin made no concessions to Arab demands for a complete halt to Jewish settlement activities in occupied territories, neither did he make a clear commitment to speed up delayed Palestinian elections and the freeing of Palestinian detainees," the English-language paper said.



IRAQI MESSAGE: His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday received at the Royal Court Iraqi dealing with bilateral relations. The meeting Minister of Higher Education Hamman Abdul was attended by Royal Court Chief Marwan Khaleq (above), who conveyed to the King a Al Qassem (Petra photo)

# Artillery, bombs strengthen Russian grip south of Grozny

STARY ATAGI, Russia (Agencies) — Russian forces moved to strengthen their control of the area south of Grozny on Sunday, bombing and shelling roads leading to the Chechen capital.

The Russian fire-power made it hazardous for Chechen fighters or civilians to approach a Russian armoured force sitting astride a strategic crossroads.

The intersection controls one of the last two roads from southern Chechenya, still controlled by the separatist rebels, into Grozny.

The road, leading past the

town of Stary Atagi, was punctuated by columns of smoke as artillery boomed out a steady rhythm. Russian snipers were also taking shots at traffic down the road. The other southern access

road to Grozny was bombed by a Russian aircraft on Sunday near where Chechen rebels had assembled on Saturday in defence against any Russian assault. However, Chechen guerril-

las said nobody was hurt in Sunday's attack.

The roads south of Grozny were heavily trafficked by refugees moving out of villages

KUWAIT (R) - Kuwait im-

proved prison conditions and

expanded the franchise in

1994 but still curbed the

rights of stateless people and

women including foreign

maids, a U.S. State Depart-

ment report issued by the

The trial of 11 Iraqis and

three Kuwaitis on charges of

trying to assassinate former

U.S. President George Bush

did not meet international

standards, the annual human

"The government made

some progress on human

rights, and it has emerged

from the troubled human

rights environment of the

post-liberation period." the

tinues to abridge or restrict a

number of significant rights.

Limitations on the freedoms

of assembly and association

and women's rights remain in

"The government con-

tinued its policy of preventing

the return of stateless, Iraqi

groups that fled or were ex-

'The government con-

report said. But it added-

rights survey added.

embassy on Sunday said.

in the way of the southward Russian move following the capture of the crossroads last

Friday. About a third of Grozny remains in Chechen independence fighters' hands, but the area has been destroyed by Russian bombardments and is almost deserted.

Russian snipers were also firing Sunday at an intersection of a road leading to where a Russian Sukhoi-27 jet was shot down by the Chechen rebels on Saturday.

The aircraft lay scattered across a 100-metre radius of snow-covered field about 16 kilometres southeast of Grozny.

Delembyek Timiyev, one of the band of rebels in the area which claimed to have shot down the aircraft, quoted the pilot's last words as "I have a house and a son.'

The soldiers said they shot down the plane with a heavy anti-aircraft gun that shoots rapid rounds of explosive bul-

"The pilot ejected, but his parachute didn't open. He was still alive when he hit the ground, his legs were smashed and he was missing

pelled after the 1991 Gulf

fire at times on human rights

issues since the Gulf war, in

particular for alleged extra-

1990-91 occupation.

iudicial killings after Iraq's

A 1991 State Department

report alleged that after li-

beration in February 1991, Kuwaitis committed more

than 300 killings as they pur-

sued foreigners suspected of

collaborating.
The 1994 report said the

government had not pub-

ished the results of its inves-

tigations into the deaths and

has given no indication as yet

that it intended to take furth-

that took place happened in

regrettable but understand-

able conditions of post-war

chaos. Officials say incidents

subsided after Kuwaiti lead-

ers returned from exile and

reasserted control in May

The report said the trial of

Iraqis and Kuwaitis on

charges of trying to kill Mr.

regarding an independent

Kuwait says any killings

er action.

Kuwait has come under

Kuwait curbs rights of stateless, women -

his arms," Timiyev, 27, said. Moscow has confirmed losing the Suhkoi-27. Meanwhile, Chechen fight-

ers said they were planning a night attack on the crossroad captured by the Russians on Friday.

They said they were waiting for weapons supplies, including a battery of Grad multiple rockets.

A Russian government statement said the Chechens were still putting up "fierce resistance" in parts of Grozny to give the forces of rebel leader Dzhokhar Dudayev time to set up defence lines elsewhere in the ruined city.

It also said Russian forces killed 350 Chechen fighters and captured 10 armoured vehicles on Saturday. Similar claims have proved exaggerated in the past.

The Russian forces made loudspeaker appromisements calling on Chechen fighters in the southwest of the city to lay down their arms, saying the army would otherwise not be responsible for the consemences.

But the rebels vowed to fight on despite being laugely outguined and outnum-

judiciary and the evidence

required for proving abuse."

vious State Department re-

ports have said defence

lawyers alleged that defen-

dants were coerced to con-

fess. Kuwaiti authorities deny

A stae security court in

June 1994 sentenced five Ira-

gis and one Kuwaiti to death,

acquitted one Kuwaiti and

sentenced five Iragis and two

Kuwaitis to prison terms for

offences ranging from pos-session of explosives to illegal

subject to automatic appeal.

ernment had improved condi-

tions in overcrowded prisons

and detention centres, ex-

tended the all-male franchise

to the sons of naturalised

citizens and invited the Inter-

national Labour Organisa-

tion (ILO) to Kuwait for con-

committee continued to

probe human rights abuses

and had urged improvements

ings or disappearances and

Parliament's human rights

sultations on labour issues.

The death sentences are

The survey said the gov-

It gave no details. Pre-

# 'Arafat complains that foes have more arms

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestine Li-beration Organisation (PLO) Chief Yasser Arafat complained during the Cairo summit that militants have more guns than his Palesti-nian National Authority (PNA), a senior Israeli official said Sunday.

"They have more weapons than I do," Mr. Arafat re-portedly told Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Thursday

evening.
"If Hamas is stronger than you and has more weapons perhaps you are not our part-ner," Mr. Rabin retorted, according to the official.

The tense exchange came

amid Mr. Rabin's demands that the self-rule regime crack down on hardliners spearheading an armed struggle against Israeli occupation. Mr. Arafat reportedly accused Israelis of "selling weapons to Hamas" and

offered to give addresses.

Mr. Rabin took up the offer, the official said, but Mr. Arafat failed to deliver. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and King Hussein then intervened speaking to Mr. Arafat in Arabic, which Mr. Rabin interpreted as a

bid to change the tone.

The Israeli premier nonetheless went on to charge Mr. Arafat with failing to take real measures against the militants.

The official said Mr. Rabin compared the 200 suspects Israel arrested after the Jan. 22 suicide bombing which killed 21 with seven Islamic Jihad members arrested by Palestinian police.

"We have arrested others in the past, but they were acquitted," Mr. Arafat re-

Mr. Rabin added accusations that some had been acquitted on other offences after intimidating a judge.

According to the official,

Mr. Mubarak also pointed out to Mr. Arafat that Egypt had jailed people trying to smuggle explosives to Gaza for 25 years.

citizens were free to criticise

meetings and in the media.

some detainees although re-

ports of such incidents con-

Kuwait strongly denies

abuse of foreigners or de-

tainees. It says its human

rights record is far superior to

those of most of its neigh-

bours, especially Iraq, which

Kuwait says holds 600

Kuwaitis detained during the

occupation, a charge Iraq de-

The report said the plight of 117,000 Arabs of undeter-

mined nationality with long residency in Kuwait "remains

a significant human rights

abuse," women suffered legal

and social discrimination and

some Asian maids were

Kuwait denies widespread

So-called stateless Arabs

say they have no official pap-

ers stating nationality, a

abused by employers.

abuse of Asian maids.

right to work.

tinued to decline, it said.

There were credible re-

## Media performance under review

AMMAN (Petra) - Information Minister Khalid Al Karaki said Sunday the government was committed to undertaking a comprehensive review of the official media performance. Commenting on a remark by member of the Lower House of Parliament Ahmad Al Kofahi, the minister said: "We have actually stopped many programmes and commercial advertisements failing to conform with the Jordanian state media, its values and morales which both the Constitution and National Charter have enhanced." The minister said his ministry was reviewing all programmes and administrative regulations.

### **Ghosheh meets** W. Bank team

AMMAN (Petra) — Director General of the Palestinian Affairs Department at the Foreign Ministry Asem Ghosheh on Sunday received a delegation representing chambers of commerce in Ramaliah, Bethlehem and Jericho, headed by Assad Hassonneh. Mr. Ghosheh reviewed with the delegation issues pertaining to facilitating the travel and movement of Palestinian citizens to Jordan and enhancing bilateral relations. Mr. Ghosheh said Jordan was ready to provide every possible support for the Palestinians in the occupied territories and promised to follow up on some issues of concern to them, including passports and certification of

### Blast kills 2 in S. Lebanon

MARJAYOUN (AP) — A bomb explosion Sunday killed a 10-year-old boy and his teenage sister and wounded five others in an Israeli-occupied border enclave in South Lebanon, security sources said. The bomb exploded at 12:30 p.m. (1030 GMT) outside a mosque on the mains street of Houla, a village ab out three kilometres from the Israeli border. The boy, Wadih Abbond, and 6-yearold sister Rose Abboad, were killed, said the sources.

### Algerian party leader beheaded

ALGIERS (AFP) — A leader of Algeria's National Liberation Front (FLN), Ahmad Kasmi, has been be-Sunday. Kasmi, a member of the central committee of the the government at public FLN — formerly Algeria's sole political party — was abducted Tuesday — Only ports that security officials blindfolded, slapped and hit his head was recovered Thursday in a railway station at Khemis-Miliana west of Algiers, the evening daily Horizons quoted security services as saying.

### Jrag reports rickets, stunted growth

BAGHDAD (AFP) - Iraq on Sunday said cases of rickets and stunted growth had appeared among children because of severe milk shortages due to United Nations sanctions, the official news agency INA reported. "The economic blockade imposed on Iraq has caused a severe milk shortage which threatens the lives of chilspokesman told the agency. He said Iraq imported \$300 million worth of milk annually for children before sanctions were imposed in 1990. and that the country now lacked 40 per cent of its needs. "The proportion of underweight newborn babies is high compared to before the blockade," he added.

### Iran rejects U.S. charges

TEHRAN (AFP) — Iran has angrily rejected U.S. accusations of human rights violations, accusing Washington of pursuing "illegitimate" political zims. Foreign Ministry spokesman Mahmoud Mohammadi hit back saying the United States "violates the rights of other nations and pursues inhumane anti-Islamic policies in various ways." The issue of human rights is a ploy used by Washington to carry forward its illegitimate aims," he told the official Islamic republic news agency IRNA. In its annual report on Wednesday, the U.S. State Department accused the Iranian government of being a "major abuser" of human rights. "Systematic abuses include arbity" rary arrests and detentions, widespread use of torture, lack of fair trials, summary executions and repressions of freedom of speech, press and association," the report said.

### Bush on a visit to Kuwait in in prison conditions. handicap in a country where and Palestinian people who 1993 "did not meet interna-There were no reports of citizenship confers welfare have strong family ties to Kuwait." it said, referring to tionally accepted standards political or extrajudicial killbenefits, and do not have the

Veiled voices protest Egypt raids, detentions

CAIRO (R) — Veiled wives and the children of detained Egyptian doctors protested on Sunday at police raids on their apartments last month to arrest their menfolk, against whom detention orders have been renewed for two weeks.

At a news conference organised by the doctors' union, Heights, seized in the 1967 controlled by the Muslim Brotherhood — Egypt's largest Islamic opposition group - the women said police had raided their homes shortly after midnight in January, terrifying them and their families.

"More than 17 police officers raided our flat while we were sleeping. They searched every corner and terrified my children," said the wife of Ibrahim Al Za'afarni, secretary-general of the Alexandria Doctors's Union who is among those arrested. "Why do they arrest peo-

serving their commnity?" she asked.

Her 11-year-old son Ismail demanded: "Are they arresting my father because he teaches people prayers at the mosque...? Please answer my The union news conference

was to protest at the continued detention of eight colleagues charged with belonging to an illegal organisation. The eight were among 28

members of the Brotherhood arrested by police last month under the same charge. Prosecutors renewed their imprisonment on Thursday for two more weeks. "The arrest of union mem-

bers is a slap in the face of Egypt's doctors who have elected them. They were arrested despite their moderate position and services to the community," union mem-ber Dr. Abdul Fattah Rizk ple who look for nothing but told the news conference.

"There is a struggle between two trends. One which wants to impose Western, Zionist domination and another (the Brotherhood) which wants to restore this nation's dignity and unity," he added.

Dr. Rizk, a spokesman for more than 250 doctors who organised a sit-in at the union's downtown headquarters to protest at the arrests, denied his colleagues had violated the law. He confirmed they were

members of the Brotherhood, but said they were pursuing their goals with democratic means. Dr. Rizk ridiculed the

charges against the Brotherhood members, saying some were accused of possessing books written by Brotherbood figures, available in bookshops.

President Hosni Mubarak's government is clamping down on militant groups who

want to overthrow the government and establish a strict Islamic state. Al Gamaa Al Islamiyah

(Islamic Group) has led the campaign since 1992, and more than 650 people have been killed in violence since.

The Muslim Brotherhood was established in 1928 by a school teacher named Hassan Al Banna. President Gamal Abdul Nasser imprisoned hundreds of Brotherhood members in 1954 after a dispute, and sentenced several of their leaders to death.

Mr. Mubarak tolerated the group's activities and its control of several professional unions but it was never allowed an independent political party, denying the members a legal status.

After the escalation of political violence, the government accused the Brotherhood of sympathising with

